

# Otaku Asia

February-March 2016  
Php 100



## 赤髪の白雪姫

Snow White with the Red Hair

NTINES ISSUE | VALENTINES ISSUE | VALENTINES ISSUE | VALENTINES ISSUE | VALENTINES ISSUE | VALENT

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This Valentines, the talk is on love and relationships and OtaKu Asia is not short on those!

We bring you one of the biggest love story of 2015 and one with the most red. We also did not forget about the Otafans who wants to serve love this month with recipes or store bought choco (page 44). Good luck, have fun but most of all, love.

- GM kanddy

#### CONTRIBUTOR'S QUESTION:

#### Best advice from anime in a quote.

"Don't believe in yourself! Believe in the me who believes in you!"

- Kamina, Gurren Lagann  
- Mikelle Abubo

"Sometimes feelings get tangled together with deductions, forming a veil that hides the truth."

- Kudou Shinichi, Detective Conan  
- Elaine Rose Palaruan

"The only one who should decide which path to follow is yourself."

- Zen Wistaria, Akagami no Shirayukihime  
- John Robert Lim

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

- Hinata Shouyou, Haikyuu!!  
- Dhanliza Atayde Cellona

"No matter what changes, I'll still be me and I can be whoever I want to be."

- Amu Hinamori, Shugo Chara  
- Dianne Gaviño

"Anything and all for the one you love."

- Duo Maxwell, GW: Endless Waltz  
- Kent Diamante

"I just want the woman I'm in love with to be happy, that is all"

- Hijikata Toushiro, Gintama  
- Nathaniel Angeles

"Even if things are painful and tough, people should appreciate what it means to be alive and all."

- Yato, Noragami  
- Ren Santos

"To be mad, to cry, to smile, and yet to still want to be together —these feelings mean you've fallen in love with someone."

- Keiichi, Ah! My Goddess  
- Ann Carmel Flores

#### PARTNERS:



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# Hungarian

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Hello Otaku Asia Anime Magazine!  
A shut-in anime fan here and I'm  
**Enma Borja** (it's just a pseudonym)

For your next exciting magazine issue,  
can you please feature my fan art of  
Midorima Shintaro of Kuroko No  
Basuke? It's a tribute of mine for this  
great character & for my fav. author,  
Fujimaki Tadatoshi.

And it will be really a pleasure if you'll  
feature the awesome band UVERworld  
in J-Idol. Their music is worth listening  
to. Every time I listen to them, it makes  
me feel like my mind is in state of  
calmness and at the same time in  
outburst. Thank you very much !

Hi minna-san especially to my  
friends and fellow otakus out  
there!!!! your mag is really cool and  
amazing that it really wants me to  
crave for more.

Keep up the good work OA team  
and more magazines to come:)

Ohh by the way I just wanna share  
my drawing. She is Alyn from Fairy  
Fencer F and also can you please  
feature Noragami and Magi in your  
mag next time??

~jaa nee~ ;)

**-Sara Ramos**



Hello Otaku Asia.!

first of all, I would like to share with you  
my fanart of Levi from SNK.. actually, I  
drew this over a year ago.. haha.! I hope  
you could feature this on your next  
issue.. thank you so much!

I would also like to request if you could  
feature Gintama' on your cover for the  
next issue (or even just a review) because  
it's just an awesome anime.! I also  
noticed a new section on your mag,  
"Seiyuu's Mic".. I hope you could feature  
more seiyuus like Tatsuhisa Suzuki,  
Mamoru Miyano, Hiroshi Kamiya and  
others. Please also include our local  
dubbers in the Philippines because they  
really are doing a great job giving life to  
the anime characters in our own  
language. Please also feature J-ROCK  
bands like ONE OK ROCK, SPYAIR,  
OLDCODEX, and others. Sorry if I have so  
many requests. Thank you and more  
power to all of you.!

**-Claries Dilloso**

Hi! I'm **Monina Malsi**  
from Malabon City.

I just wanna share my FanArt of Rena  
from the game Elsword. I really love  
your published magazines and  
hope that I can buy them all.

Wish you more luck to bring happiness  
to otakus nationwide!

I've collected 9 otaku magazines the  
other one was confiscated and the  
other one was missing still I loved  
your magazine (I cried for it). I was  
always waiting for the next release of  
your magazine - keep up the good  
work (every magazine of yours  
always surprised me) — at Sta. Ana  
Manila.

**-Jasmine Magno**







Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?  
Fanart to showoff?  
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Kamusta po, Otaku Asia! Love ko ang mag ninyo. Nais ko po ishare itong Love Hina fan art. Ang Love Hina ay isa sa mga anime unang nakita ko sa Hero TV at don ako naging isang Hero TV fan. Sana po mafeature ito sa next issue. Arigatou Gozaimasu OA! Keep up the good work!!!

-Jimmuel Hernandez

Konbanwa!!!! Kanako erika again!! Hajimemashite Otaku Asia! I really love your mag. Recently i've bought na is # 18,19,20 mags. Going pa bilhin ang ika 21. Sana na feature niyo ang fairy tail. ANYway because your featured cover was "Your lie in april" arigatou gozaimasu. Can i request about Otome games and anime games. (gomen ne for all of those)More power and GOD BLESS! We OTAKUs Multiply!

-Kanako Erika

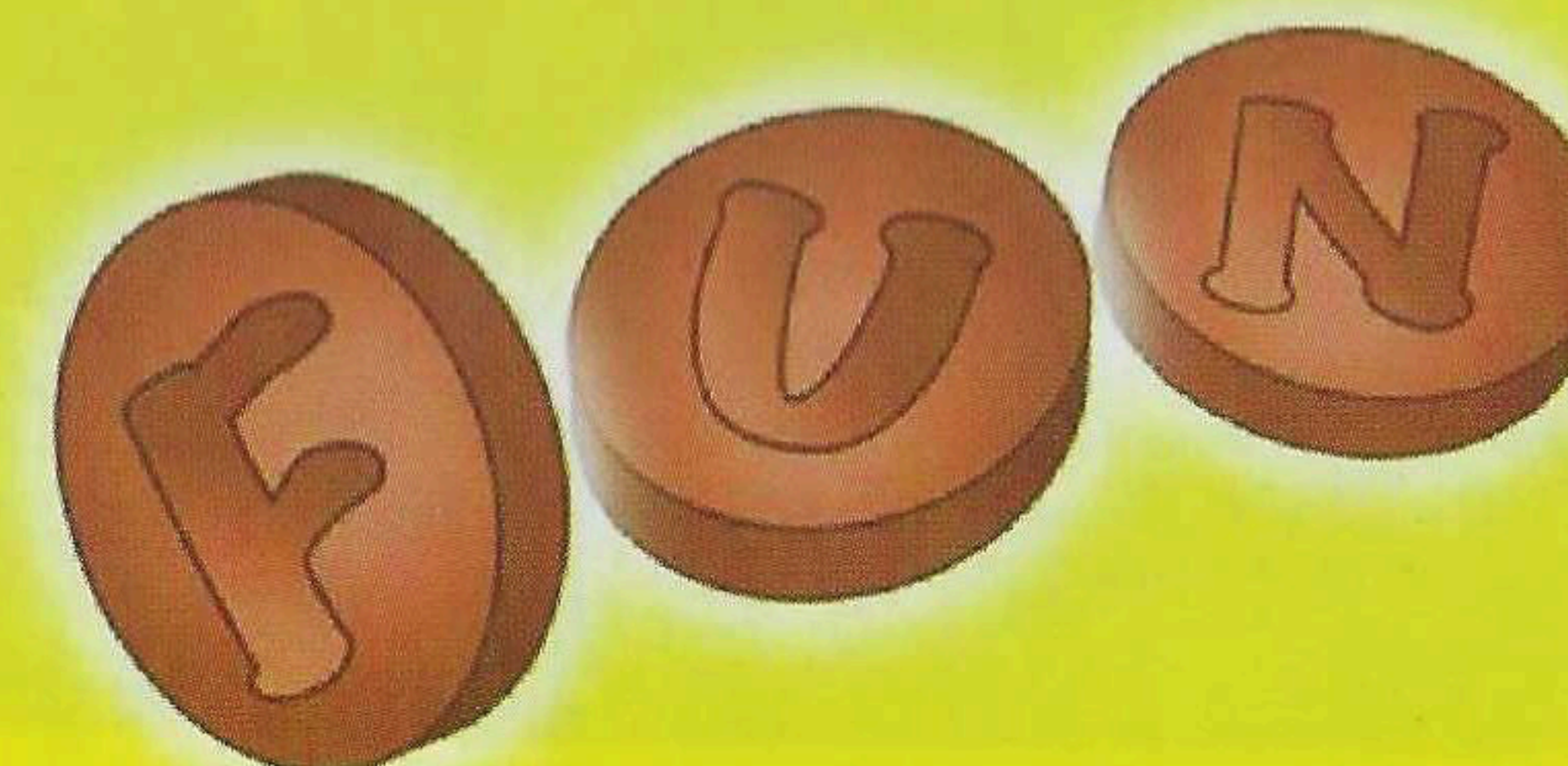
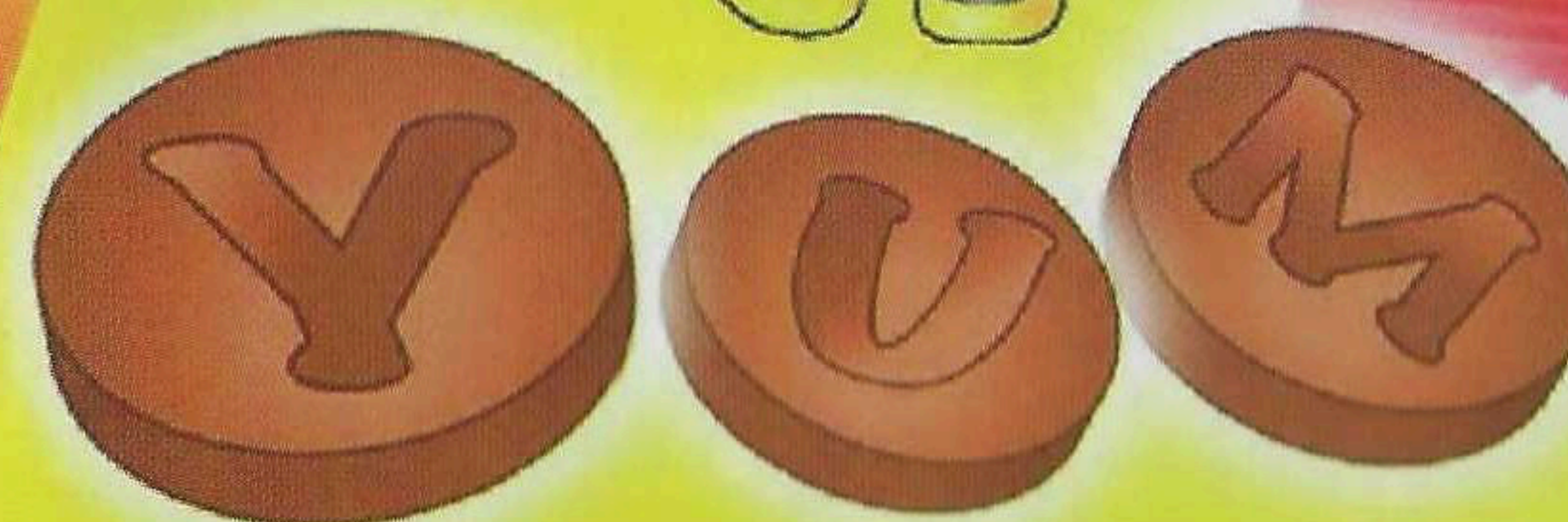


Jan Lynn Vargas

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NEWS

# LOOK UP, DIGIMON!

By James

Digi-fans! If you still haven't had enough of Digimon because of Digimon Tri, then you'll have more Digi-world goodies to sink your teeth in next year, as Digimon Story: Cyber Sleuth will be hitting shelves on the first quarter of 2016.

The game, which was originally released in Japan back on March 2014, will be released in the western world as an exclusive for both the PS4 and PS Vita. The PS4 version come with a physical release, while the PS Vita version will be digital-only. In addition, PS4 players who will preorder their copy will come with a lot of bonus items: an Agumon and Gabumon, a "Taichi Yagami" costume set for Agumon, a male and female "hero" costume set for Agumon, a "useful item set," and Beelzebumon" (Beelzebumon) Blast Mode and Cherubimon, which are both exclusive to the western release.

For more information, you visit [www.bandainamcoent.com](http://www.bandainamcoent.com) or watch the gameplay trailer on YouTube.



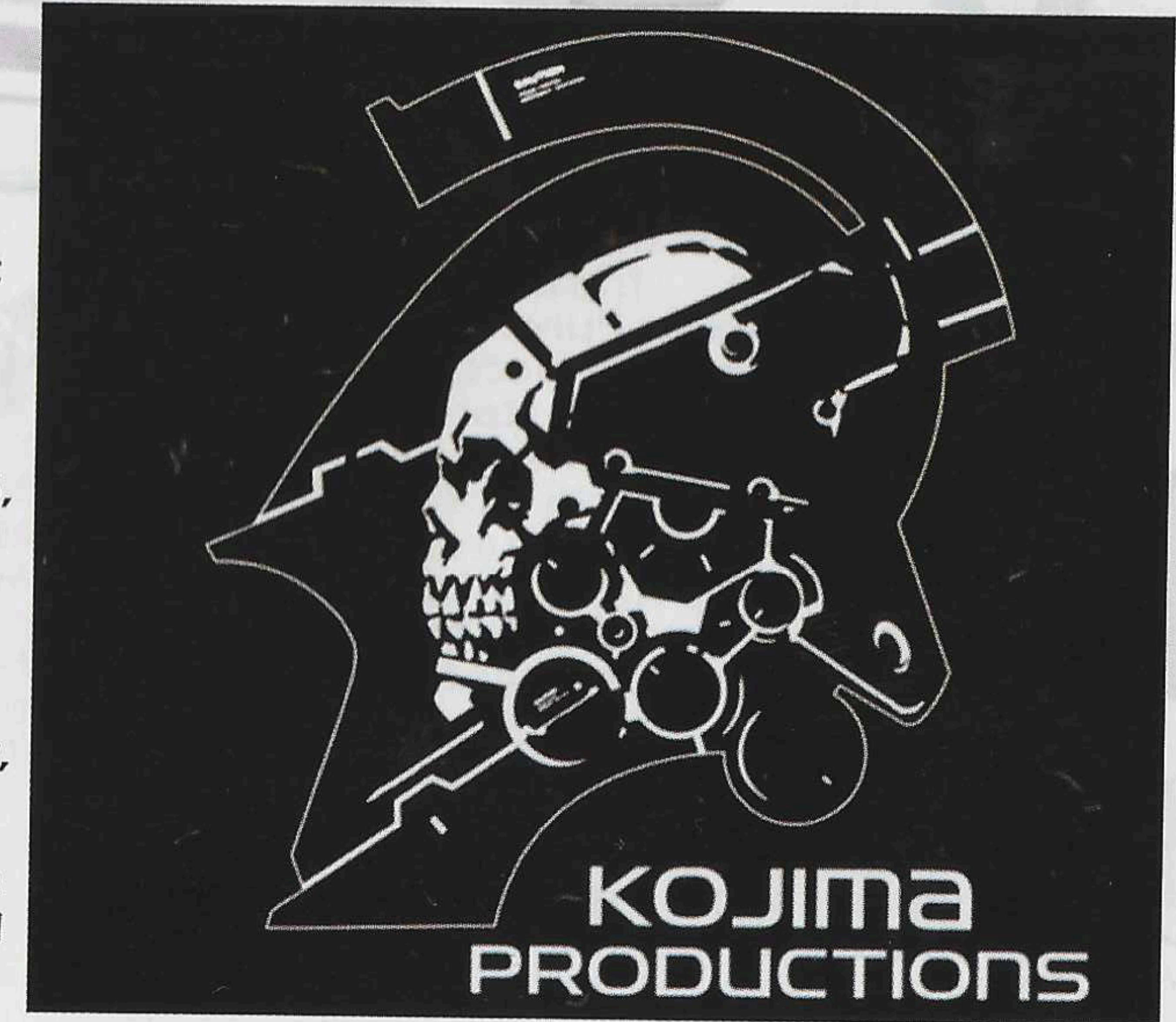
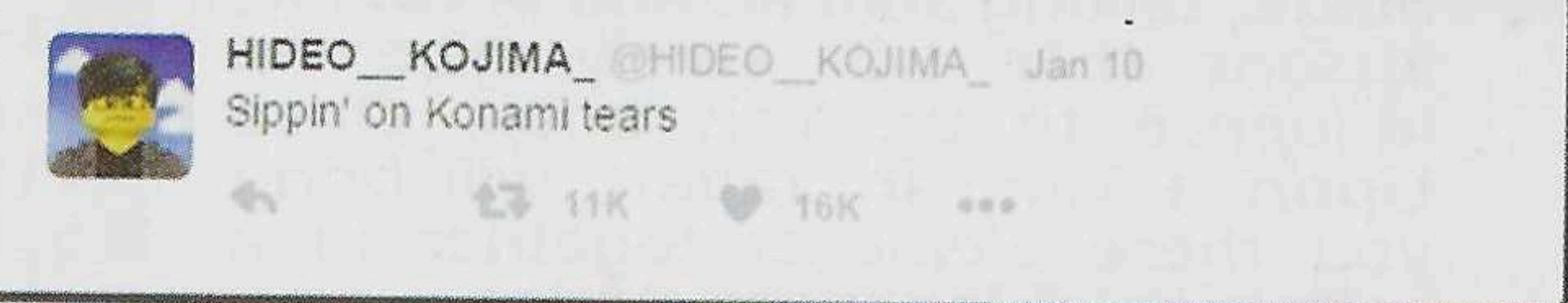
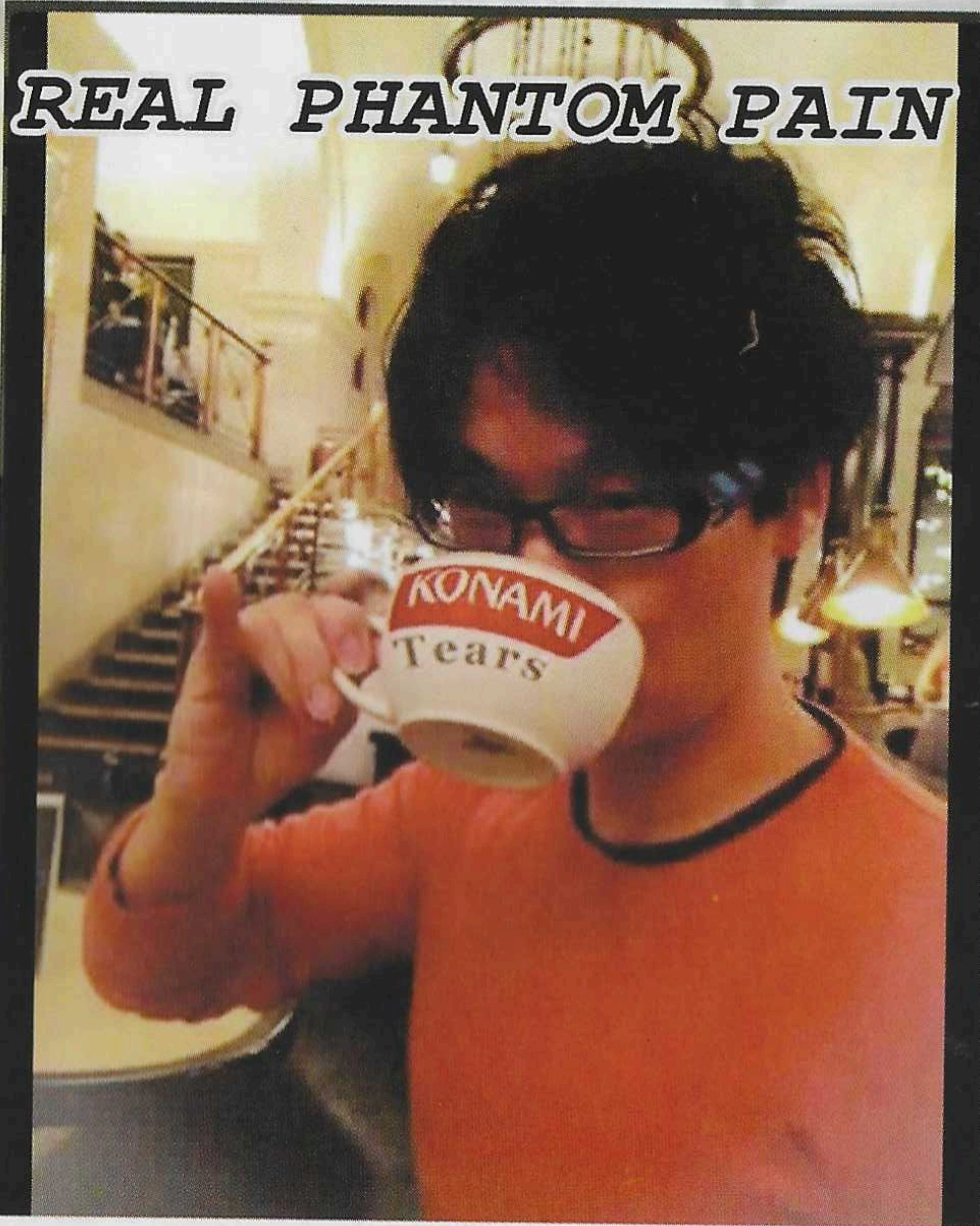
# KONAMI: A REAL PHANTOM PAIN

By James

For what seemed like a long time, the name Hideo Kojima is almost inseparable to that of gaming giant Konami, thanks to the highly successful Metal Gear Solid series. But after what was almost three decades of partnership, the famed game designer, screenwriter, director, and producer has split ways with the company.

On October 2015, there were mixed news regarding the employment status of the Konami vice-president, who is also the head of the company's in-house game development studio Kojima Productions. There were circulating rumors, a lot from trustworthy sources, claiming that Kojima had already left Konami. On the other hand, according to Konami, he was just taking a long break. And just this December, because of Kojima's non-attendance at the Game Awards 2015 despite Metal Gear Solid V being the winner of the Best Action/Adventure award and a nominee for two other awards, more speculations arose. According to fans and some game journalists, his failure to be on the awards night was either because he was no longer part of the company, or because Konami was preventing him from doing so.

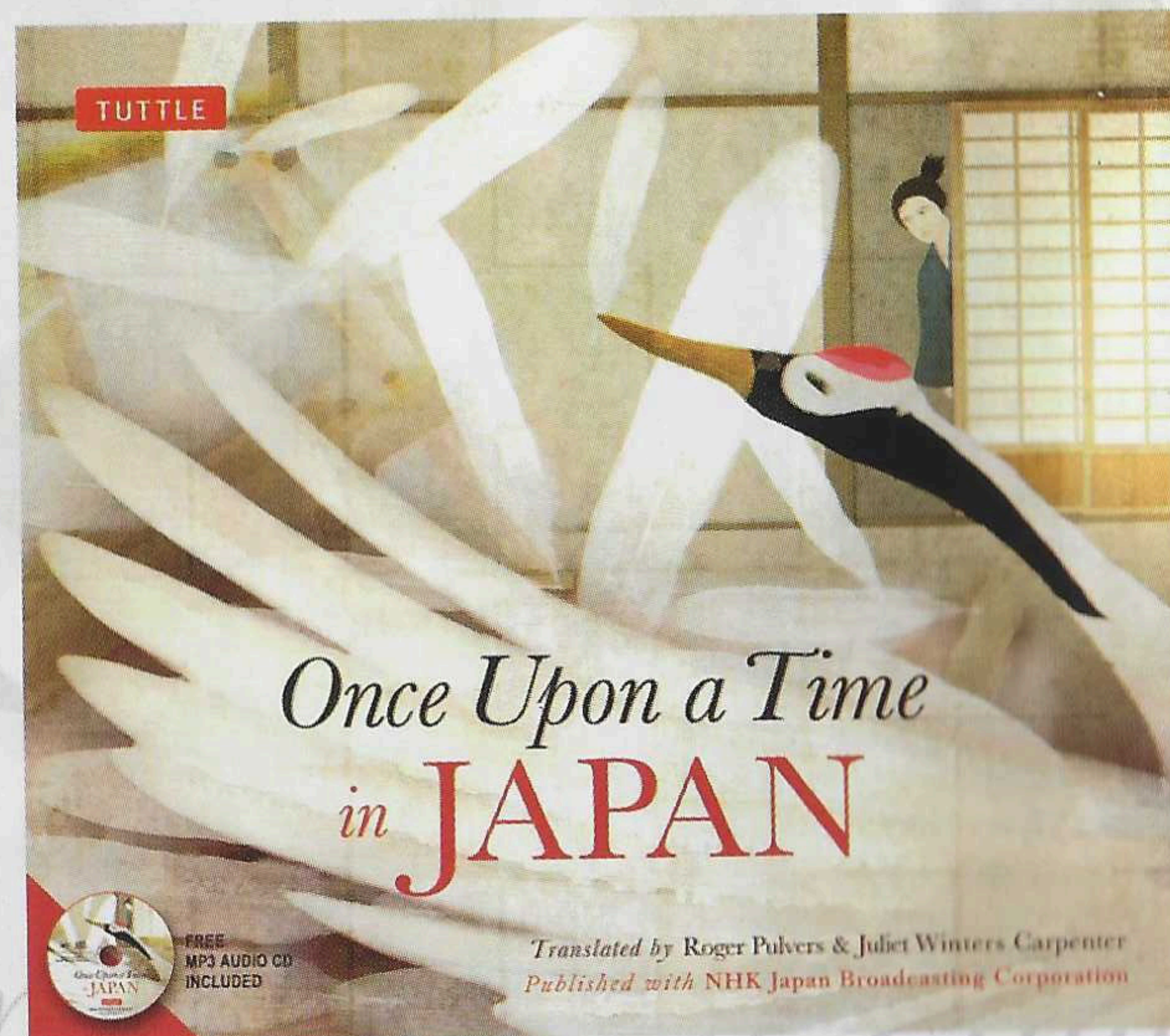
But, on December 16, 2015, the guessing has been put to a stop, as Kojima released a statement. According to him, Kojima Productions will be reestablished as an independent gaming company, and has plans of releasing a joint project with Sony Computer Entertainment; this means their first-ever game will be an exclusive release for the PS4.







## HOOKED BOOK



By Ren

The stories we were read by our parents were often composed of magic, talking animals and of course, lessons that will surely give an influence to us. This book, *Once Upon a Time in Japan*, will bring you these elements together in a collection of Japanese stories.

*Once Upon a Time in Japan* presents eight wonderful stories from the popular NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation's popular radio series with the same title. The stories were translated from Japanese by Roger Pulvers and Juliet Winters Carpenter. Accompanying these beautiful stories are illustrations by Manami Yamada, Tomonori Taniguchi and Nao Takabatake, that will surely add to your reading experience. Included in this book is an audio CD to listen to stories being read out loud.

This book is a very recommended gift to children or to Japanese culture enthusiasts as the stories not only introduce good stories but also introduce the Japanese culture to others.

### Once Upon a Time in Japan

Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK)

Translators: Roger Pulvers, Juliet Carpenter,

Hardcover, 120 pages

Published at: November 3rd

2015 by Tuttle Publishing

ISBN: 9784805313596

### The stories included are as follows:

The Wife Who Never Eats

The Mill of the Sea

The Monkey and the Crab

The Magical Hood

Sleepyhead Taro and the Children

The Fox and the Otter

The Gratitude of the Crane

The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter



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## women of studio ghibli

Studio Ghibli is commonly known for its dazzling art, detailed animation, and the writer/director who has "retired" many times, Miyazaki Hayao-sensei. The theme of most Studio Ghibli stories, however, is the journey of independent and adventurous women. They experience difficulty which seemingly cannot be resolved, but win against their struggles in the end. Let's appreciate the wonderful female characters who made a difference in the stories brought to life by Studio Ghibli.

The women of Studio Ghibli are good role models from all walks of life. They are timeless characters that know no setting, and most women could relate to each of their story. The more difficulty they faced, the stronger they become and finally realize the most important values in life.

**Nausicaa**

*(Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind, 1984)*

Being a post-apocalyptic heroine, Nausicaa's love for nature and living things is almost unreasonable, until the concept of importance of nature is fully grasped. Every little thing is precious, even the villainous animals and insects that caused harm to the humans.



**Kiki**

*(Kiki's Delivery Service, 1989)*



Because of Kiki's youthfulness and lack of experience in the real world, her innocence is very interesting in many situations. The most difficult hardship she faced was losing her ability to fly and talk to her cat. However, with the right timing and realization of purpose, she was able to overcome these hardships.

**San**

*(Princess Mononoke, 1997)*

Her only family is also a pack of wolves whom she vowed to protect. She is the protector of nature and environment, the home she has been accustomed to ever since she was a baby. Her only change of heart was when Ashitaka, showed her his pure heart as a human being. San is the proof that there is not a cold heart kept for very long.



**Chihiro**

*(Spirited Away, 2001)*

Living the life of a person with fading memories and stolen identity, Chihiro/Sen has undergone a difficult transition in the spirit world. She was forced to be a grown-up soul while still living in the body of a child. The trials she had to face and beings she encountered are dangerous, but her attachment to reality brought her back to the right path.



**Sophie**

*(Howl's Moving Castle, 2004)*



She goes on a journey to cure herself from the curse and help the wizard Howl stop the war among countries. Her persistence and kindness to different creatures, especially to Howl gains her their respect. Sophie experienced getting old at the wrong time, and her physically weak body has become the biggest restraint in her journeys. However, Sophie is a quick-witted woman who can make the unusual solutions in dire times.

**Arrietty**

*(Arrietty, 2010)*

Arrietty is a big risk taker, despite knowing that they could be shunned out of the house. Her curiosity in a different kind from her family and living her life in hiding urged her to take bold steps. Her courage is admirable, which brought the difficult situation into her favor in the end.



**Princess Kaguya**

*(The Tale of the Princess Kaguya, 2013)*



Princess Kaguya reminisces about her simple life, the friends and the neighbors they left behind. Kaguya is actually a moonchild, a divine goddess whose time is limited on earth. Princess Kaguya's most defining characteristic is knowing how to look back to her roots and where she came from. For her, the real treasures are her experiences with people on Earth, and not handsome princes or material things.





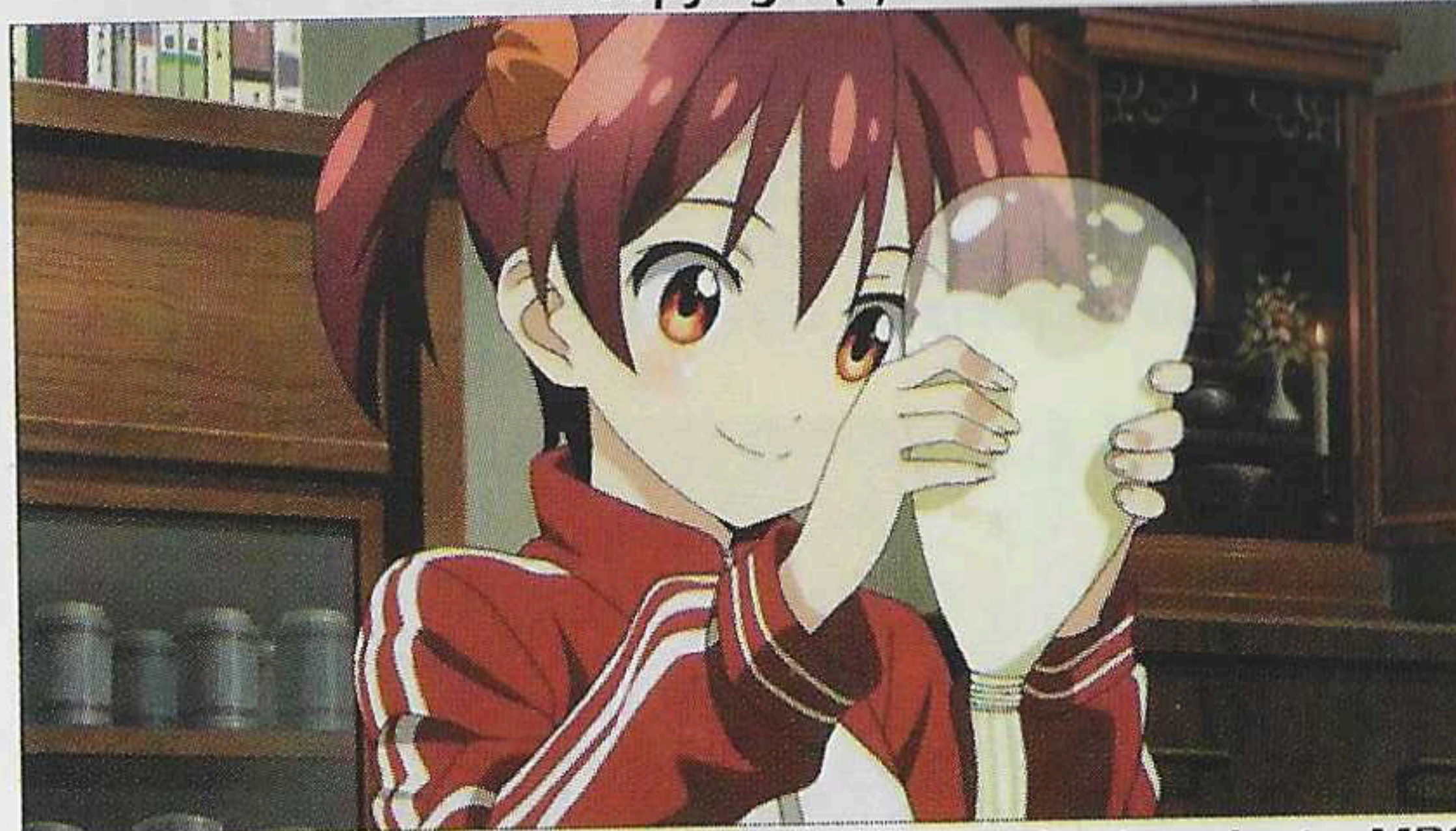
# BENTO BOX

If you still need to be told that Japan is amazing, check this out:

## ALL YOU NEED IS MAYO ACTUALLY



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There are a few different variations that we'd like you to try:

### Original Kewpie

- Made using egg yolk only, apple and malt vinegar, and spices.
- Red cap.
- Popular for its incomparably smooth and creamy texture as well as its luxurious flavour.

In the PH, our mayonnaise is just one brand (whoever said all *laidies* choose them?) which comes in a bottle and it pretty much limits the imagination.

Kewpie mayo comes in a squeeze bottle and lets you do various things:

If you keep the cap on, you can garnish you meals with fine lines of mayonnaise. Write something or draw!

Twist off the cap and there is a larger star shaped hole (shown on the left) to dispense more mayo at once while also getting this nice shape.

Toichiro Nakashima studied in the US back in 1925 and brought home a jar. He started his company, Kewpie after it's rising popularity. Now, Kewpie is internationally known as 'japanese mayo' and is largely used in Japan.

People who love mayonnaise too much (Hijikata Touseirou for example) are called Mayora.

Warning, though: Kewpie has a certain amount of MSG.

It is widely used as dipping for most traditional Japanese food, as salad dressing and more. I sometimes use it to substitute ketchup when I eat egg.

My sister hates the mascot baby.

### Half Kewpie

- Half the calories of the regular mayonnaise.
- White cap.

### Zero Kewpie

- Zero calories what else?
- Pink cap

Last year, Kewpie a worthwhile attraction that made we want to go to Japan even more: **mayonnaise museum**.

They have a "Salad Hall" because the company promotes healthy eating and the "Mayonnaise Dome" which is a room shaped as a replica of a 450g squeeze bottle.

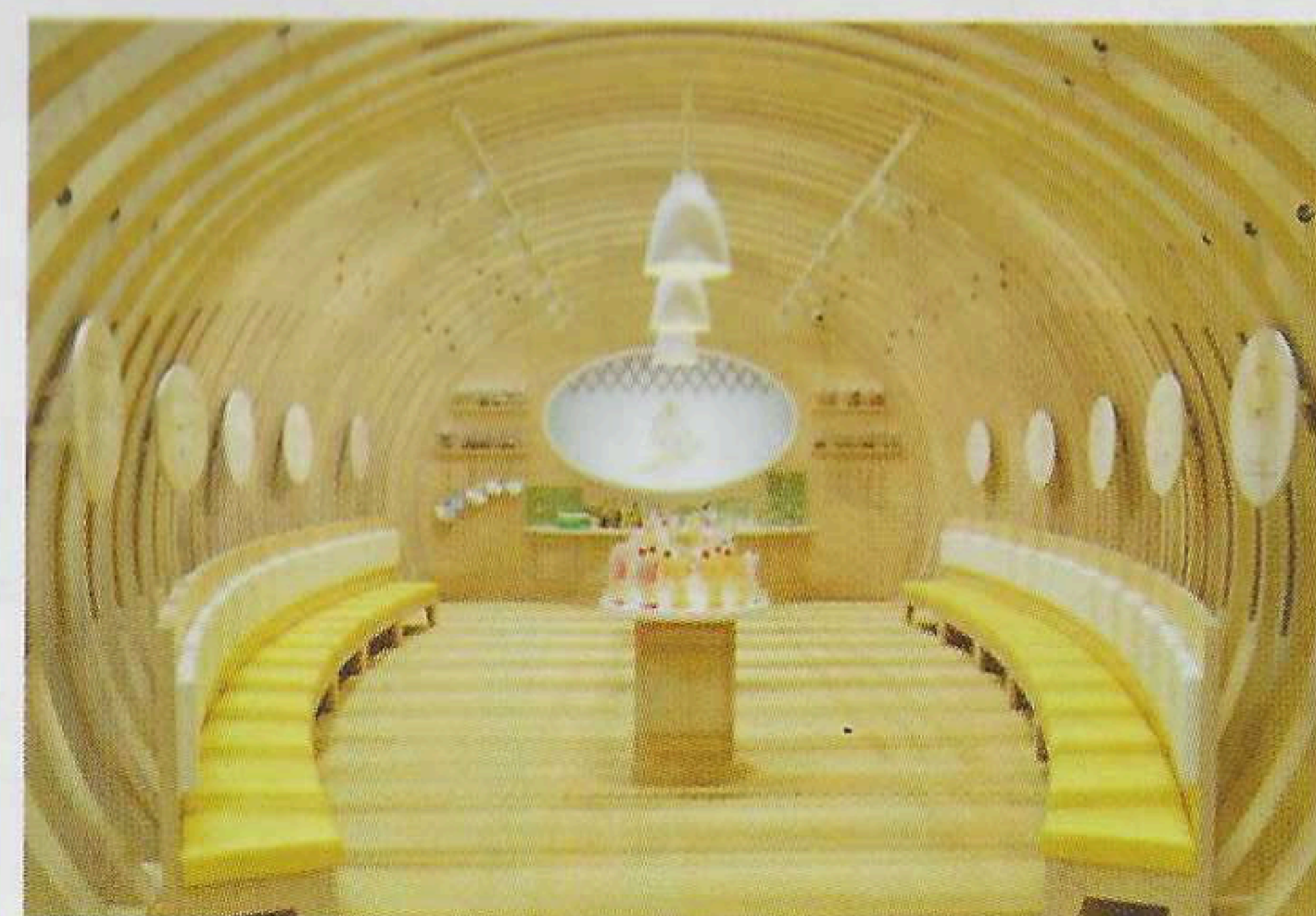
Visitors get to learn about the history of mayo and see how it is made in the factory.

"Kewpie Kitchen" is where visitors sit down to make their own mayo-based sauces and dressings. It got so popular that there is a TWO MONTH WAIT to book a schedule.

The bottle and seal was precaustiously invented to keep oxygen from spoiling the vegetable oil and altering the taste.

We think this is why the expiry of the mayonaise is so early.

<http://find-travel.jp/article/27553>



To start you off in this Kewpie adventure, we've taken a few recipies from their site: [www.kewpie.co.jp/](http://www.kewpie.co.jp/) and translated this for you. The first recipe should be easy:

### Mayo toast

1. Spread a generous amount of mayonnaise on the bread in a square. Leave a cavity/space in the middle.
2. Crack an egg and season with salt and pepper to taste.
3. Toast and enjoy~



### Bunny sandwich fluffy eggs (the sandwich on the right)

1. Cook scrambled eggs. Let cool and mash it with mayonnaise.
2. Cut bread like in the picture (we recommend use of *bonete* or *monay*)
3. Stuff your bread with the egg-mayo mixture.
4. Reheat the whole bread for 1-2 minutes in microwave. Garnish with two cucumber slices. Enjoy!







Enough about bread. You can enjoy mayonnaise with rice... and only rice??

### Rice ball 2 ways

[Nori\* rice ball]

1. Mix 200 g chopped nori and 2 teaspoons of mayonnaise in a rice ball

[Ham and corn rice ball]

2. Roll cooked ham and cooked corn kernels in a rice ball

\*NORI: dried sheet of seaweed



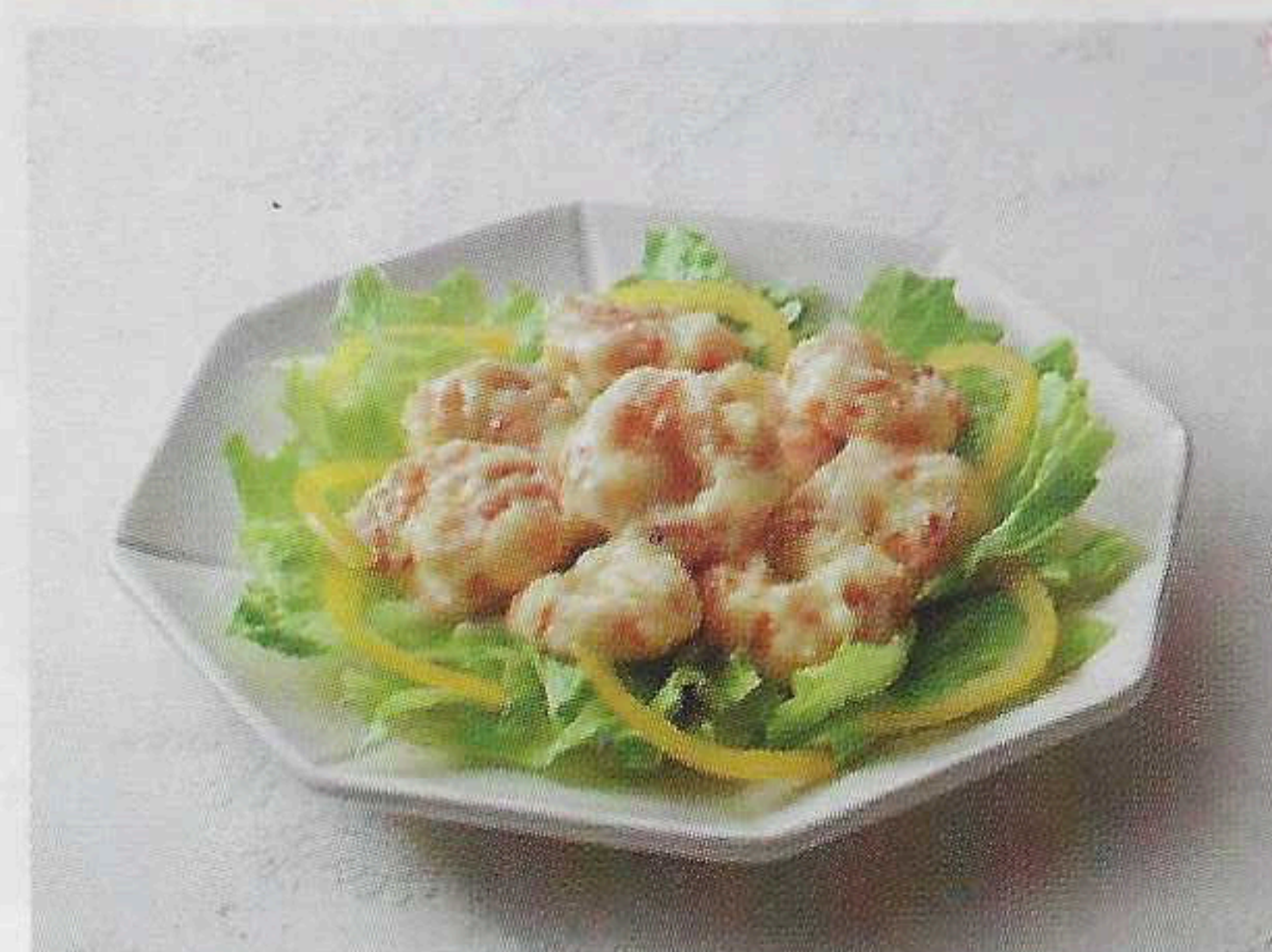
### Colorful rice!

1. Cut cooked hotdog like a half moon

2. Heat mayonnaise in a pan and add plain rice after it starts to melt.

3. Stir in the hotdog and cooked corn kernels. Add chopped spring onion.

4. Add salt and pepper to taste. Add soy sauce to taste.



### Ebi Mayo

1. Peel and wash the shrimp. Salt to marinate.

2. Toss each shrimp in breading mix before frying in a generous amount of oil.

3. Dry the shrimp in kitchen tissue to get the oil out. Place on top of washed lettuce and garnish with a lot of mayonnaise.



### Tsunami honey dip

1. Great to use with sliced garlic bread and apples

2. Mix slices of canned tuna, honey and mayonnaise in a dip bowl. Enjoy~

I originally intended the choices of recipes to get challenging as it progressed but the recipe in the website mostly uses products and vegetables commonly used in Japan (like dashi, lotus root and cod roe) which are not really up to taste with most Filipinos. So it ended up like this.

This article was not sponsored by Kewpie at all and was written for the fun of it and to share knowledge on mayonnaise because it's just so good to eat.

More recipes at [recipe.kewpie.co.jp](http://recipe.kewpie.co.jp) but in Japanese....



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Cash & Carry







## Finally we are doing this

Beginner tutorial by Kanddy

This tutorial is long overdue mainly because we did not have the materials and equipment to do it. We're not exactly toy collectors or enthusiasts.

However, we took this as a challenge and a chance to do something different. We are now ready to make it!

GK is "garage kit" or resin kit is an assembly scale model kit most commonly cast in polyurethane resin.

Our partner company, E2046 is a recast company. Love it or hate it, it is a good opportunity for starters like me to try out a new hobby. Especially since their kits are pretty much cheap.

They've also started making a line of figures by themselves through "Ori" where they take inspiration from the market and transform it into an original figure.

In this one, we get the ever popular maid cafe allure and everyone's favorite servant, Saber from Fate series. Let's start.



As we said, this tutorial is overdue and I've already opened the box, fiddled with the pieces so we can't do an "unboxing".

Technically all you need to do upon opening is CHECK THE PIECES. There will be a piece of paper enumerating all the pieces and you just have to checklist them. From experience, E2046 will not send you an incomplete box. They'll send you a LOT OF FOAM if you're getting a pre-painted one or A LOT OF BUBBLE WRAP if you're getting a GK.

Don't bother trying to assemble the figure because most likely the flashes would still be there and get in the way.

What are flashes?



Our first order of business are the materials needed. I forgot to add the clipper in the photo but you'll need a wire cutter or a hobby cutter.

Flashes are excess parts of resin resulting from the modelling. Every now and then do a fitting test to see if the pieces fit well together. In the E2046 GK tutorial, they used this product Milliput to fill in gaps. However, it is not (yet) sold in the country and toy collectors have told me that Apoxie Sculpt and even could work as well. They've also tried to use Elastoseal which impressed me.

After getting all the flashes out, you'll need to sand it smooth. You would need of course a sand paper. They recommended using three types:

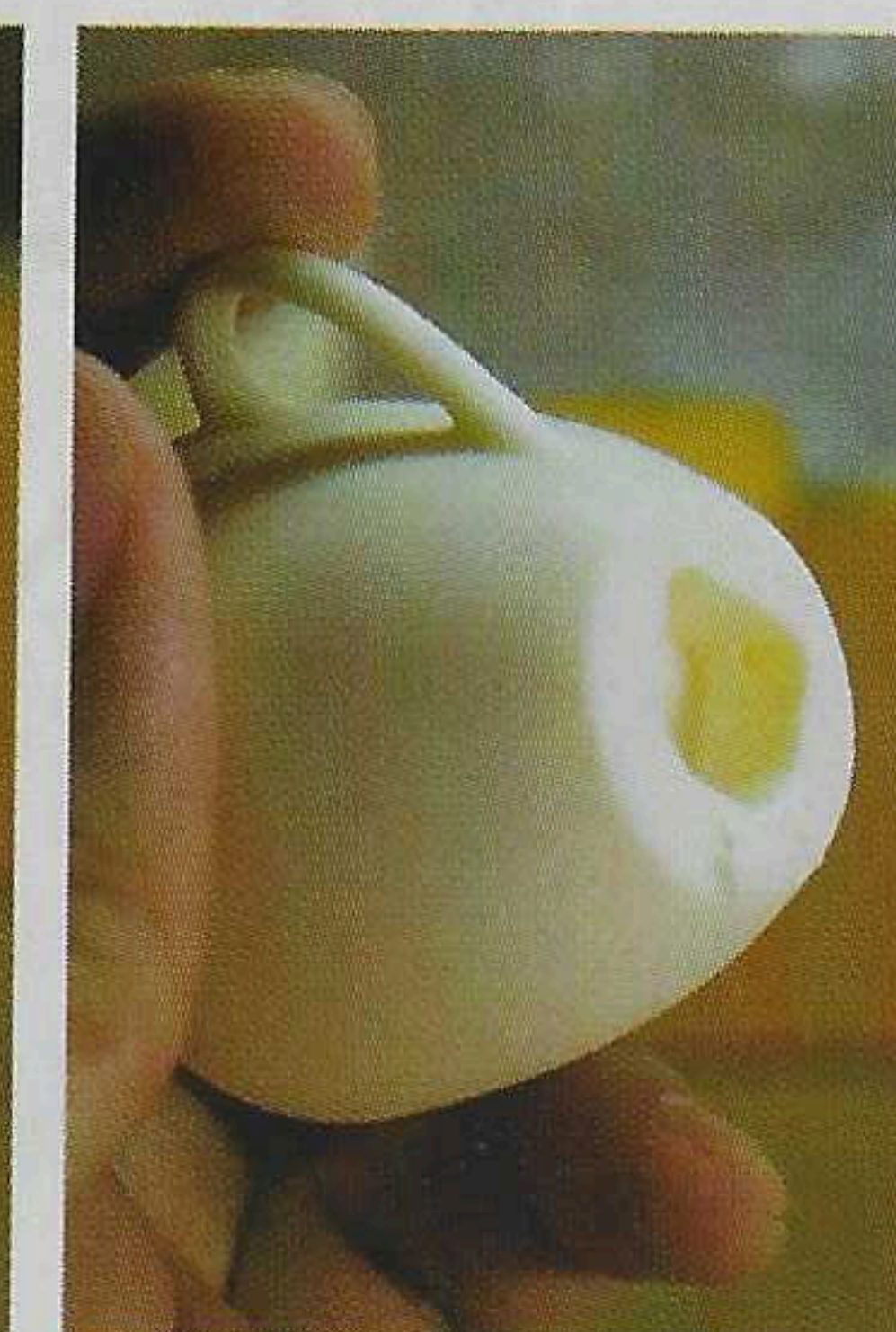
3M Medium  
3M Extra Fine  
Tamiya Finishing

I only actually used the first two. I use the medium to clean it evenly. Some of the flashes were placed in a curved surface so I used the extra fine to get it to shape.

There are those who use files (like the one they use for your finger nails) but were only just beginners.



This is a piece before sanding. See how uneven it looks?

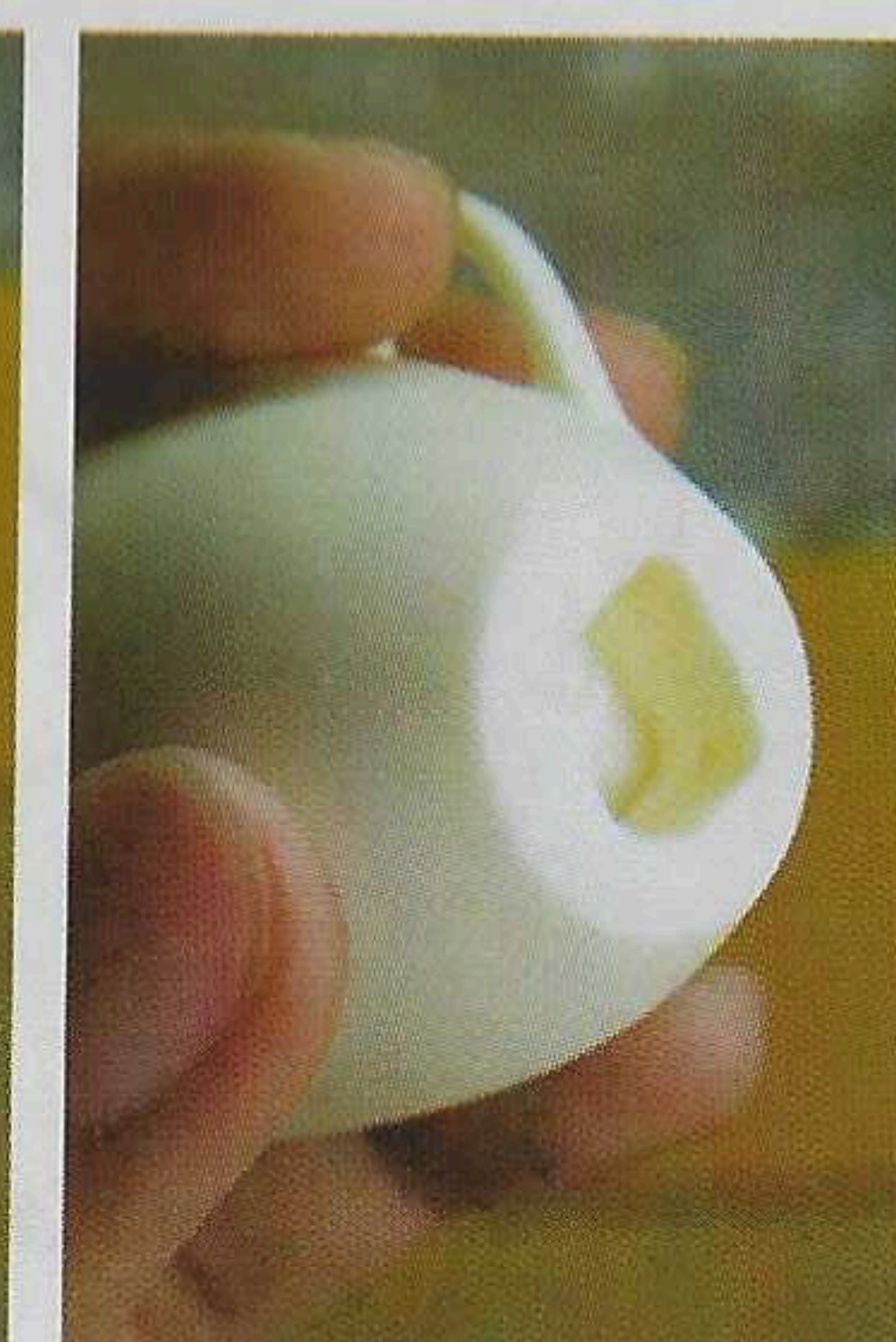


I'm clearly a beginner in this so we will be going through this slowly together. This will only be the first part of a series of tutorials in order for me to finish the figure.

Before I forget, you also need to wear a face mask. In the picture on the left, I am using a big mask rather than an ordinary medical mask. This is because the sand created by the resin is more dangerous and could damage your lungs. Some would use those with filters. If you do, we recommend a dust filter for the sanding and gas filter for the priming.

For now we only covered the intro, flashes and sanding. Next will be washing and priming.

See you next issue! Thank you to E2046 for being so patient with me.



This is the same piece after sanding.



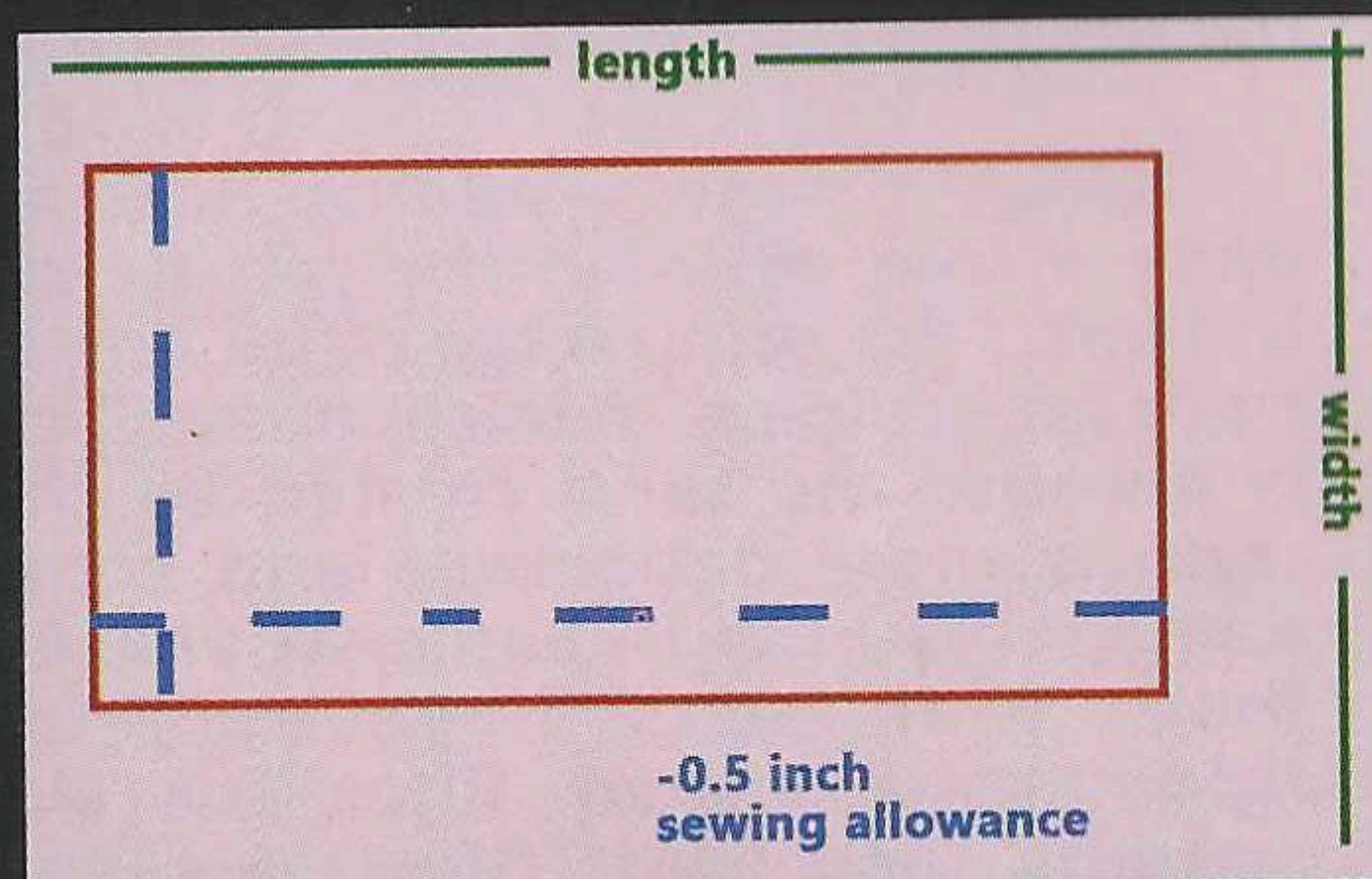


## RIBBON WITH FRILLS TUTORIAL

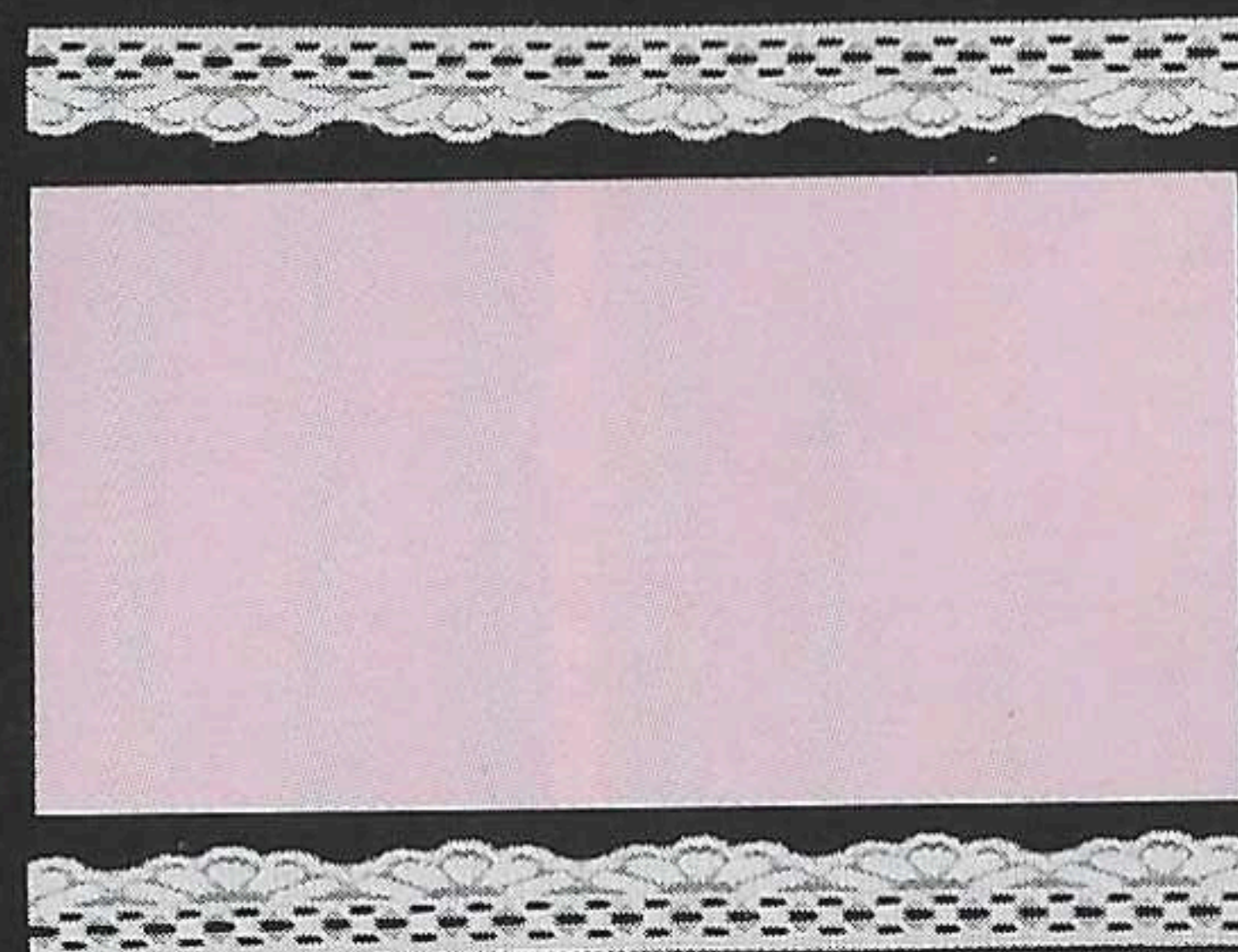
by: Yani

### Materials Needed:

- cloth of your choice
- lace
- thread (depend on the color of your cloth)
- headband or hair clip
- scissors
- glue gun



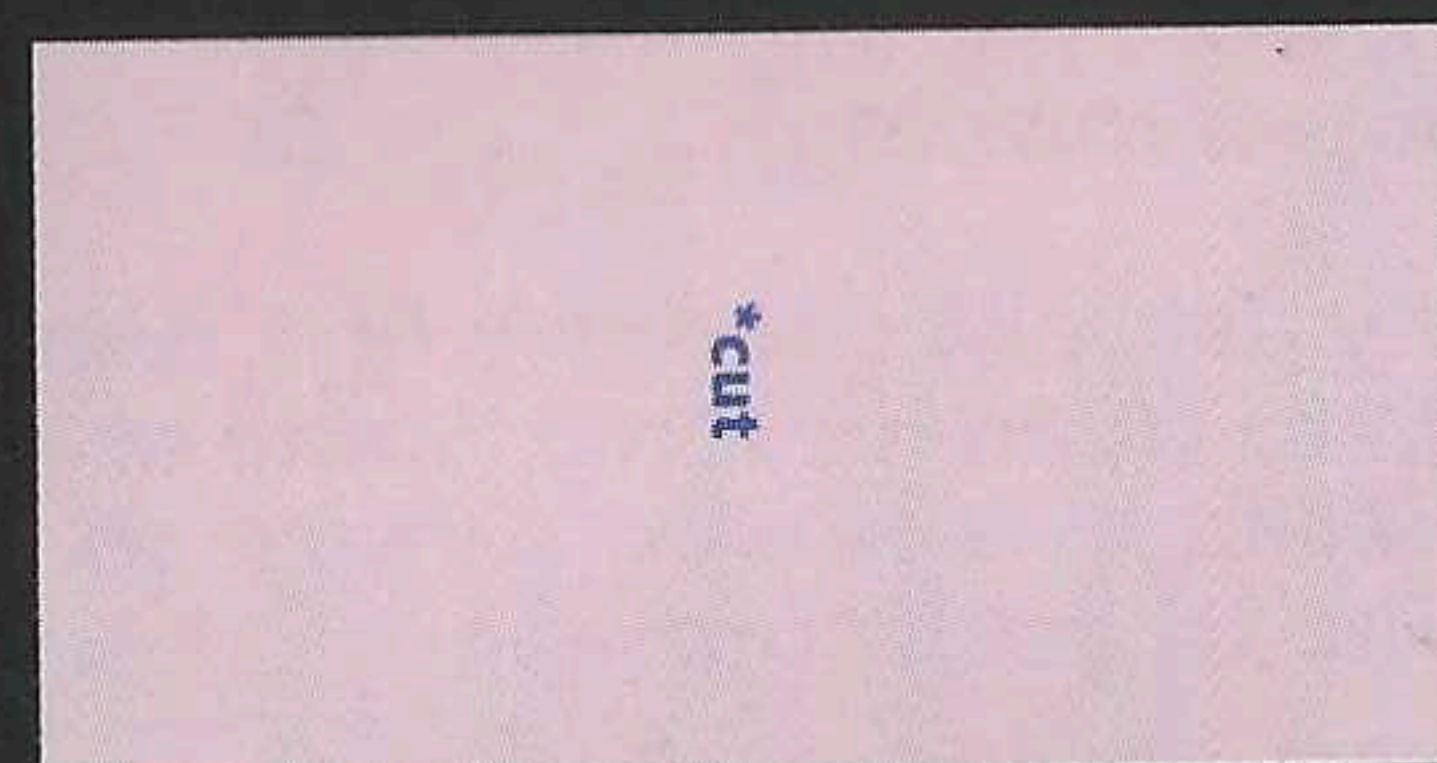
2. Grab a piece of the cloth and then cut a small portion at the middle by 1 inch vertically.



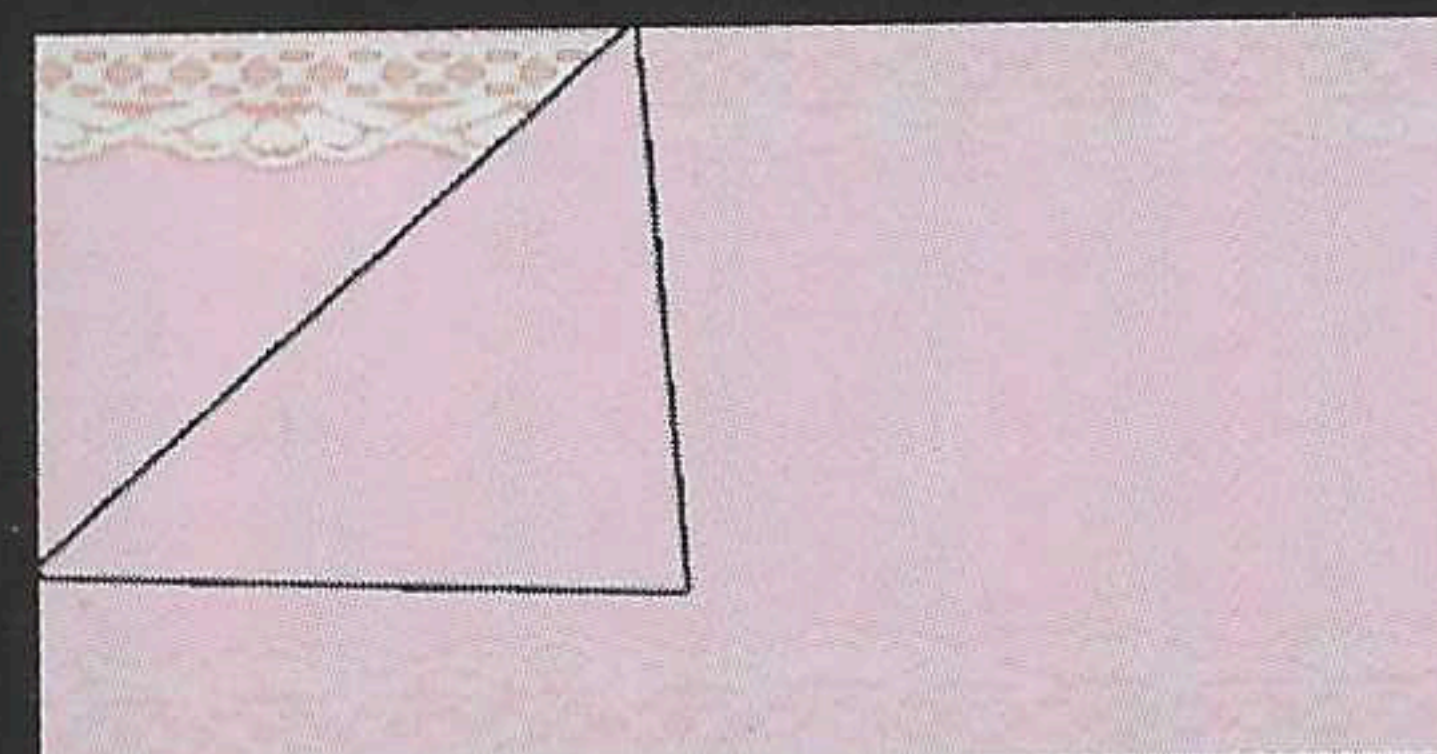
4. Get the two pieces of fabric and then put the laces in between of the two cloths. The one on the edge shouldn't be the frilly side. Please refer at the image on the right. Put pins so the lace wouldn't get displaced.

### Instructions:

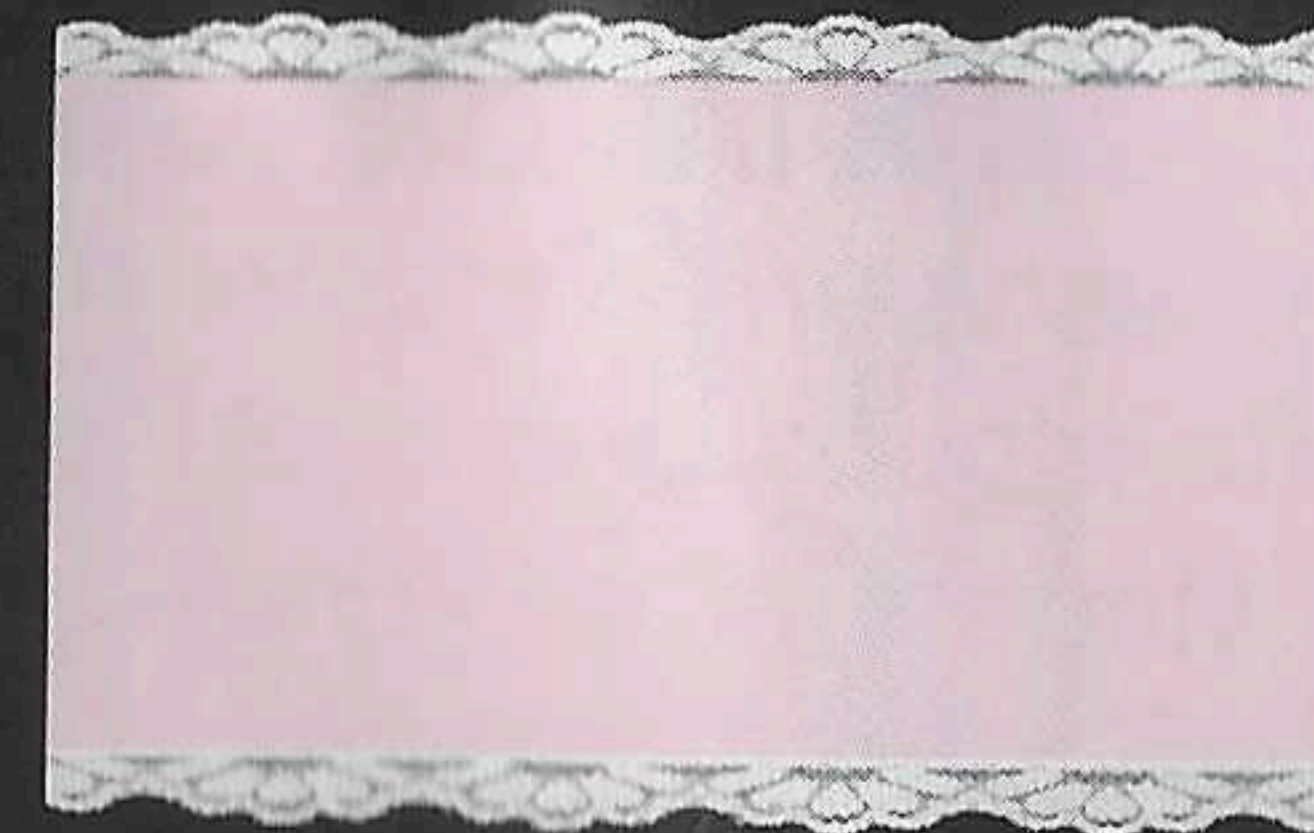
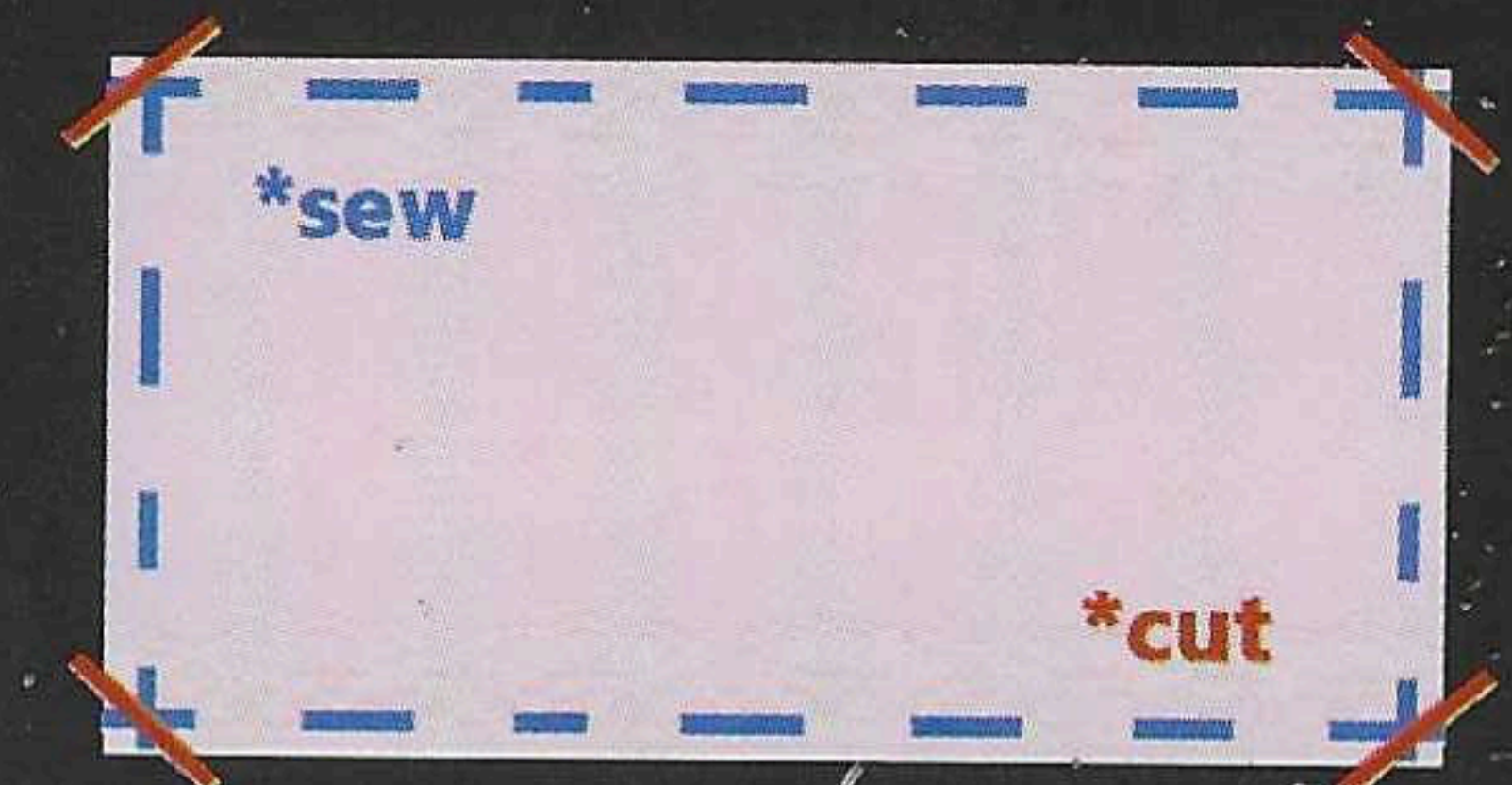
1. Know how big your ribbon should be. Measure it using a tape measure on the cloth. Get its length and width. Then add 0.5 inches on each side for the sewing allowance and then cut the cloth. Make two pieces of this.



3. Get the lace and then cut it based on the length of the side where you want to put it. For this tutorial, I will be putting lace on the top and bottom part.

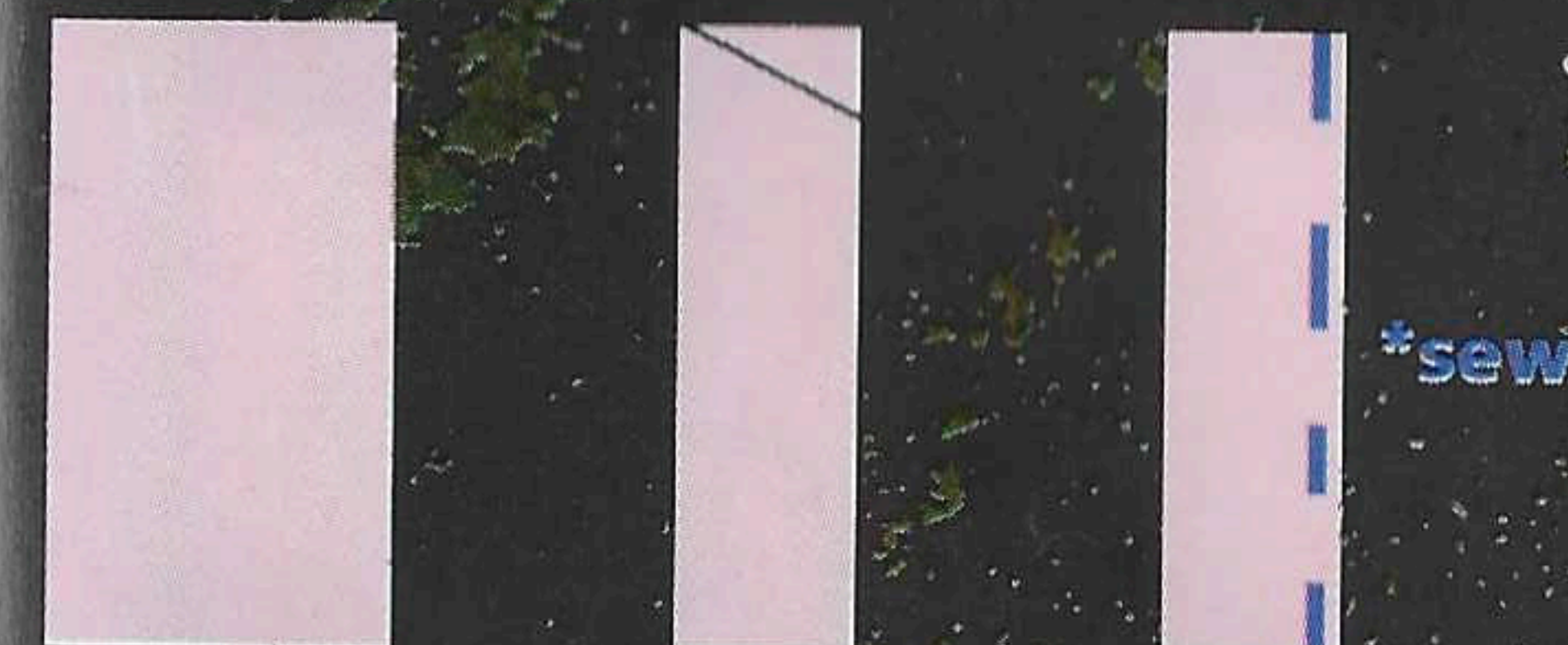
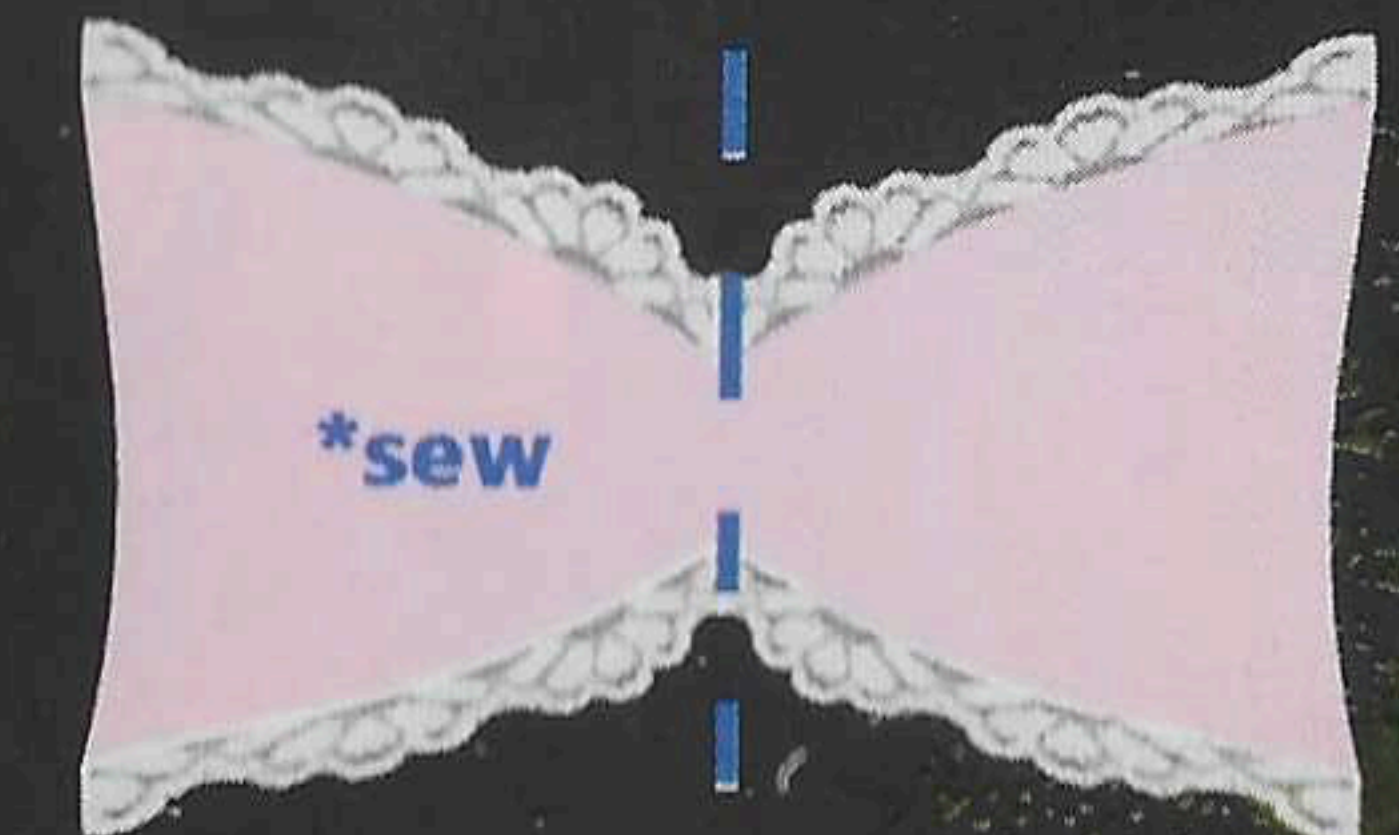


5. Sew all the four sides. After that, cut the edges similar to the image on the right. Make sure that you won't cut the stitched part or else the ribbon won't come out nicely.

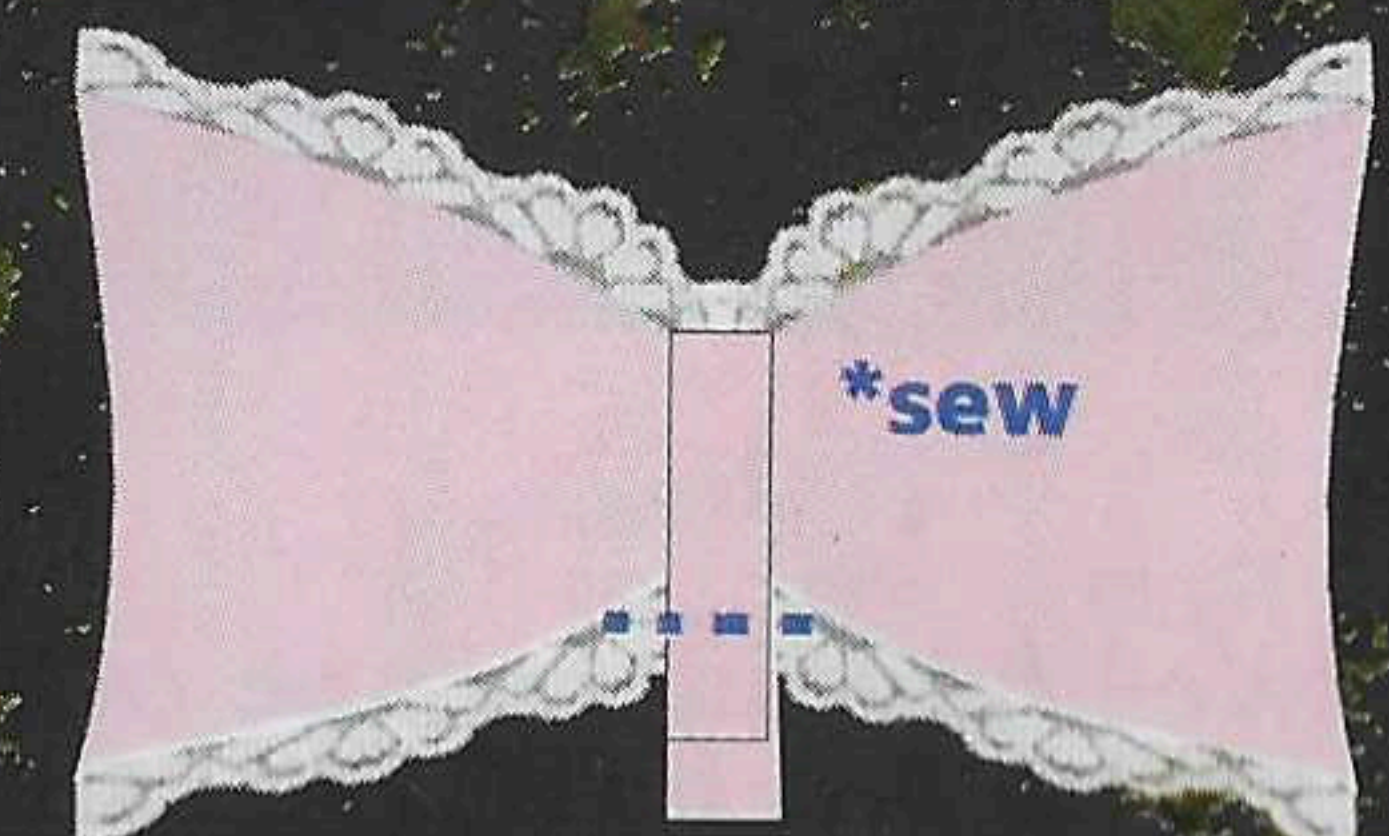


6. Find the hole that we've done in step # 2 and from there, reverse the cloth. The inside should be the one that is visible (with lace).

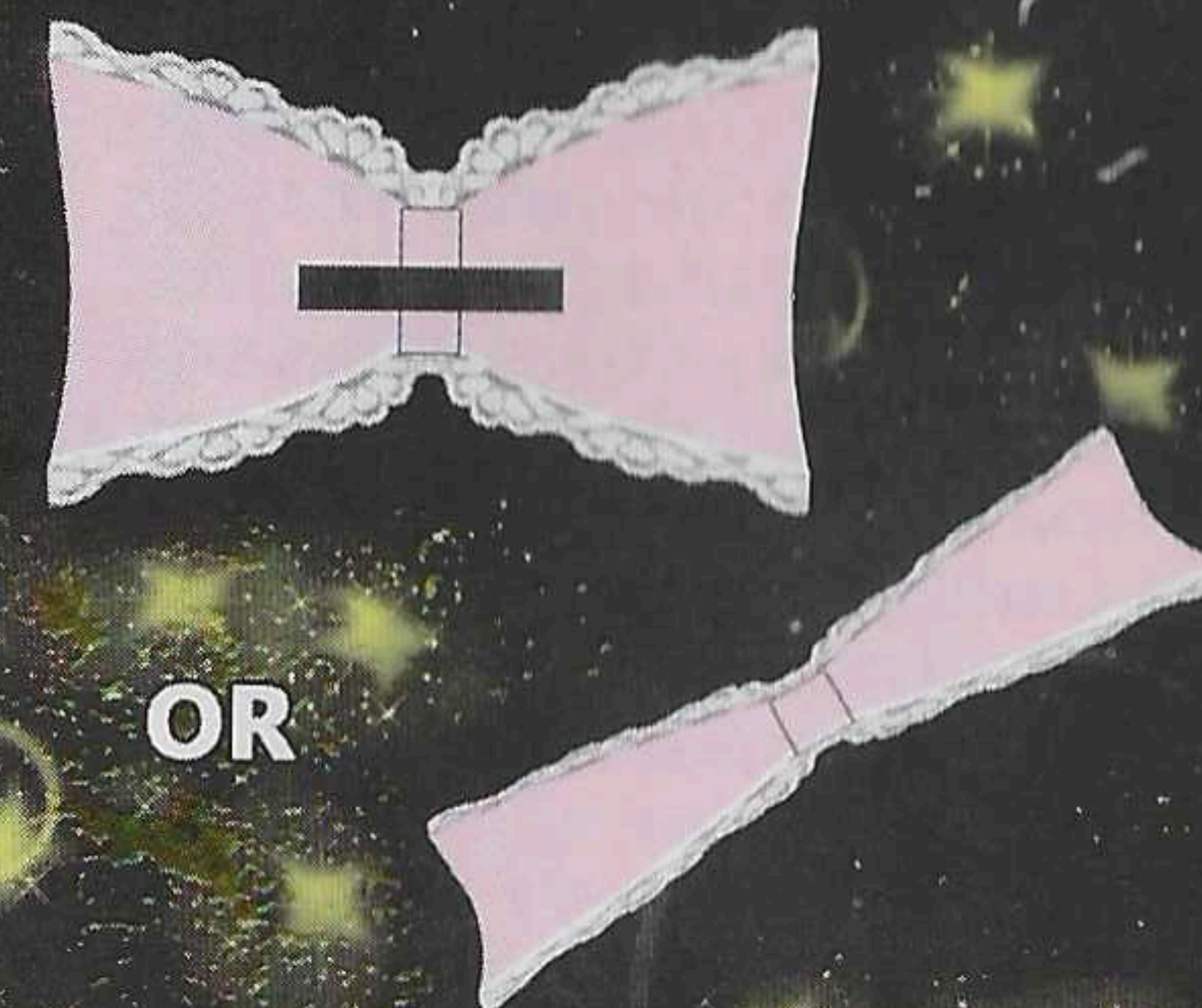
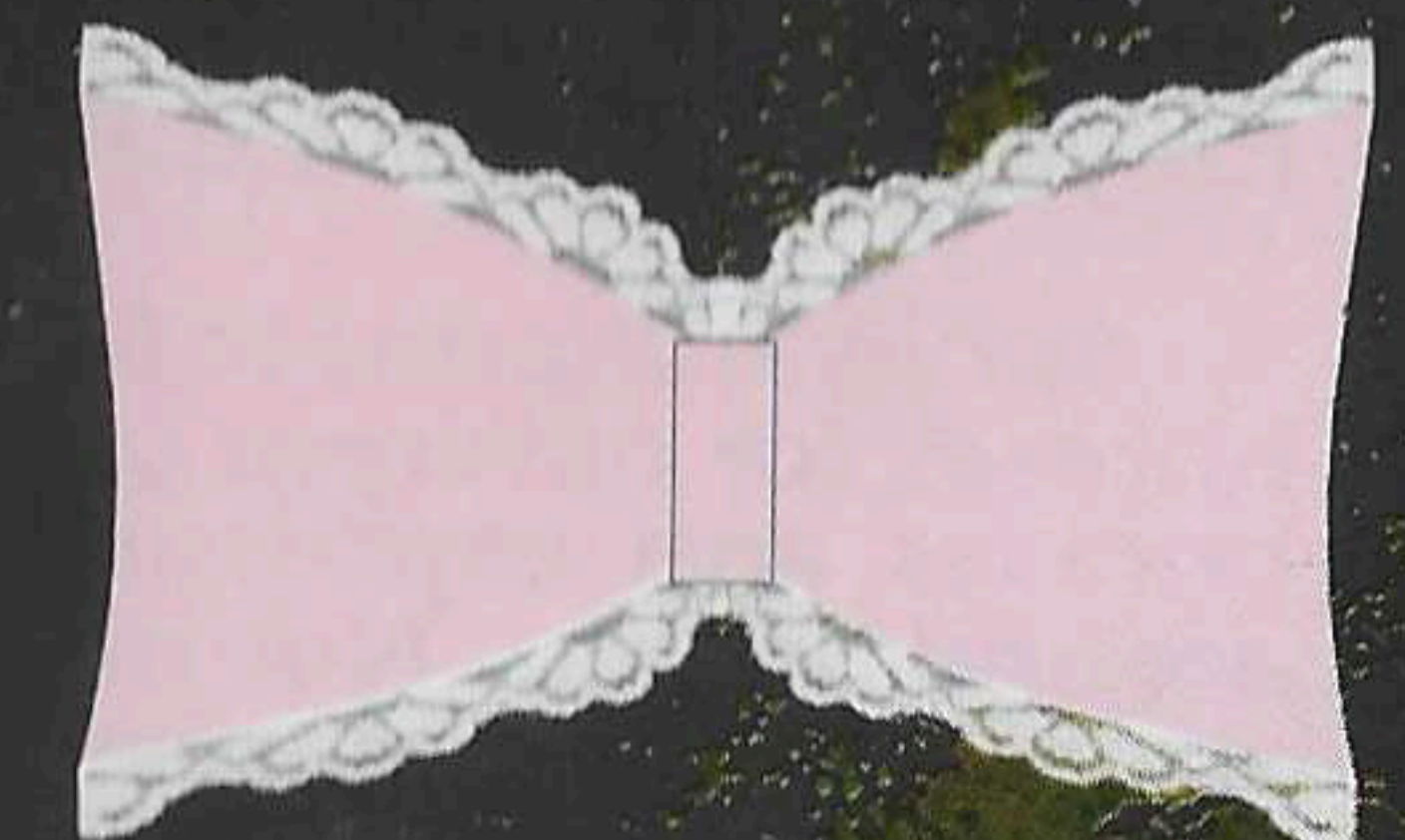
7. Find the center part; place guidelines and then crumple it similar to the image at the right and then sew that part.



8. Set aside the ribbon and measure a 1.5X2,5 inches on the cloth once again and then cut it. Fold it vertically and then sew the open side.



9. Reverse it (the side with stitch is inside) and then place it at the middle of the ribbon. Measure how tight should it be in the middle and then sew. Cut excess part and then reverse it. The one with the stitch must be inside.



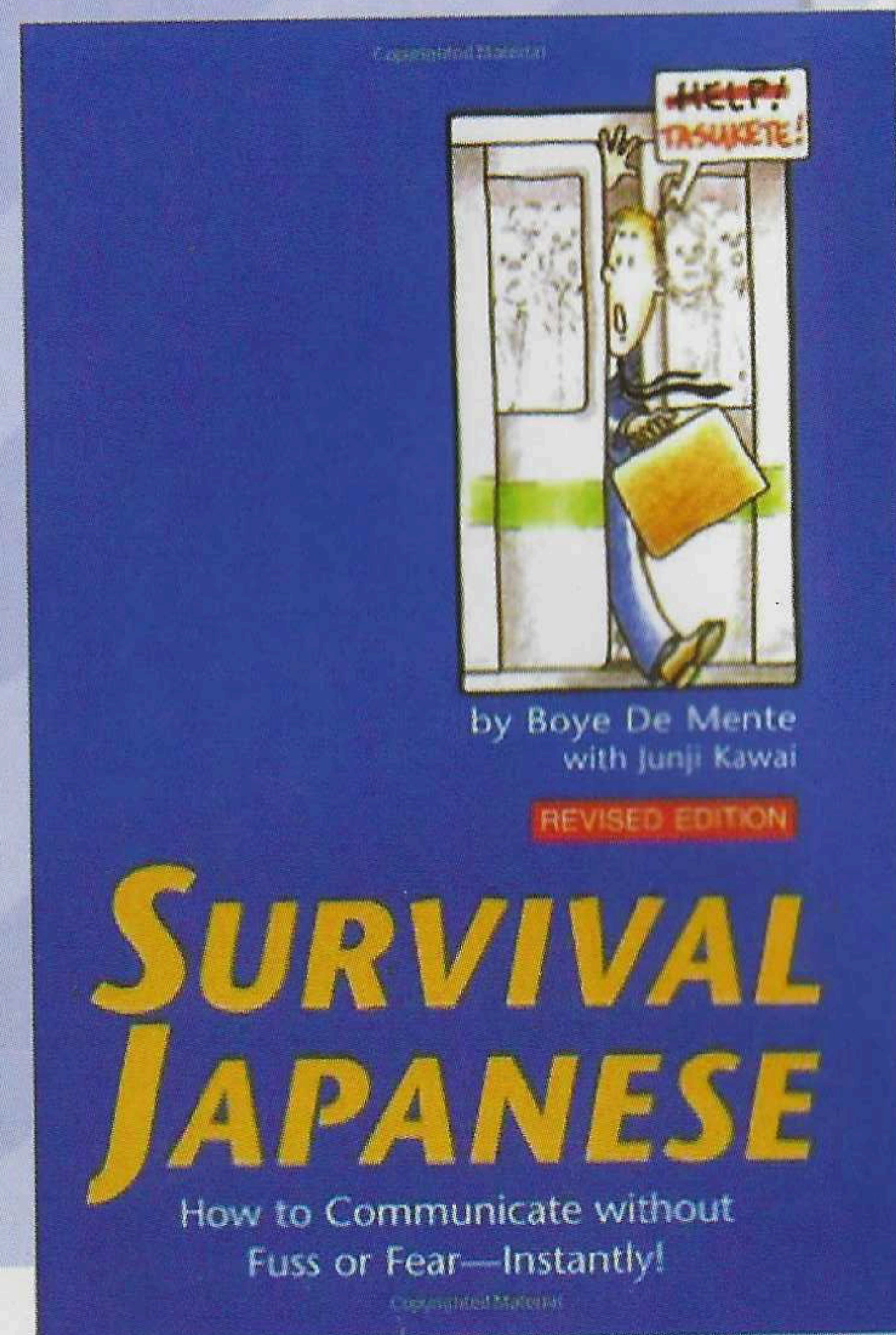
OR

10. At the back, place the clip or the headband using glue gun and there you have it~ Ribbon headband with frills made by yourself.





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**By Ren**  
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article by Kent  
questions by Xander

height is just a number



## MEET YOUR ARTIST!

★ Nekoshei ★

- 16 yrs old
- introvert
- Filipina
- short tempered
- couch potato
- procrastinator
- socially awkward
- 30% matured  
70% childish

### ★ Mc Gusta

- fluffy animals
- novels
- fries/pizza
- chuckie milk
- my waifus
- my hasubando
- LoL
- the internet
- memes
- music
- goofing off
- lolis
- money
- book smell
- rain
- cosplays
- yaoi
- sleep
- long nights
- deez nuts
- SLNDRNS

### ★ How 'bout NO

- weabs?
- backstabbers
- waking up early
- bad puns
- hypocrites
- hell weeks
- bi@tches
- the internet
- large crowds
- trash talkers
- hot weather
- my height
- cramming
- j3j3 p33p5
- worms
- stolen pics of me
- cliff hangers
- heels
- lag
- writing long stuffs

With the rise of the machines, it gets easier and easier for many to achieve their dreams. Want to become a dancer? Dance games are on the rise for you to loosen up those joints and learn new moves. Dream to be an animator? There are new applications or softwares for you to try your hand at it. Even my hobby as an artist improved after I got my first graphic tablet.

And who else to enjoy these new machines but the youth? Achievers are getting younger and younger each time. Academy award winners, VMA winners and many others in other fields. It is no surprise that our lokal'taku is only 16 years old.

Our lokal'taku for the month should be known to basketball fans despite her anime art style. How? Well, I first encountered her art during the UAAP season 78 mainly because my alma matter was winning left and right. NekoShei posted a gjinka OC of UST, UP, DLSU and Ateneo. She also made a mini comic about how UST students have become impervious to flood (we wear swimsuits underneath our uniforms) under the album "College Campus Girls".

NekoShei is a member of the art circle Pixitato Artworks who sets up artist booths during major anime events. Pixitato is composed of four other artists Nerii, Riiko, Kurumiko and our very own Xander.

I asked Xander to ask our artist a few questions and we thank her for entertaining our request!

Follow her on these sites:

Facebook: [facebook.com/NekosheiArtworks](https://facebook.com/NekosheiArtworks)

Deviantart: [nekoshei.dA.com](https://deviantart.com/nekoshei)

Twitter: @nekoshei

Instagram: nekoshei



How long have you been drawing?

I have been drawing since I was a kid. I used to have this notebook filled with cartoon drawings, especially Pokemon (yes I was a huge poke-nerd back then). I became interested in digital art and anime when I was in elementary and started drawing anime when I was in highschool.



What classes or lessons did you take to draw like you are now?

I never took any art classes or lessons, although I am quite interested.



What does "NekoShei" mean?

I like adding cat-related words or terms to my usernames like ShiiraNyan and KurohTaiga (tigers are considered as cats right? XD) simply because I really love cats. On the other hand, Shei is my nickname.



Did you experience some struggles? How did you get through it xD?

Absolutely and quite often! Like other artists, I experience art blocks too. Sometimes, my laziness will suddenly kick in which prevents me from finishing an illustration xD Despite the struggles that occur, I still manage look at the positive side and successfully finish an artwork







**Nekoshei's Art Mascot**



Do you do tutorials?

I haven't tried making tutorials yet because honestly, I suck at explaining XD. Actually, a lot of people had already requested for tutorials and I told them that I would try to make some soon. Hopefully, I would be able to try creating some tutorials some day and be able to help others in drawing.



Where do you think you excel at?

I honestly think that I excel at coloring. Not only because it's my favorite part when I'm drawing, I've seen a huge improvement of my coloring style and I'll be doing my best to polish it.



How do you create or draft a character's anatomy and place it to a background that complements it?

Before making the actual sketch for an illustration, first I would think of a theme for the illustration and visualize a pose for the character and the best angle/perspective for the whole drawing. Then if it's necessary, I would think of a background that would satisfy the theme that I chose. Usually it takes more time for me to finalize the character's pose than coming up with the background.



**Himouto Umaru-chan**



What made you draw or what/who inspired you to draw and continue on doing that?

The thing is, I'm really not sure what encouraged me to start drawing when I was a kid. It was just a mere past time activity, a hobby. Now, I consider it as my passion. When I first entered the world of digital art, which was deviant to me, I realized that I want to take this hobby seriously. Seeing all the marvelous artworks of various artists online, I was inspired to draw more and share my artworks to others.



How does it feel that many people love your artworks?

I started posting my drawings online on Deviantart and that was when my parents bought me my first drawing tablet. I was very happy when my very first art account gained a hundred watchers!!!! Last 2014, I made a Facebook art page. I started posting drawings in 2015 and I was overwhelmed on how the number of likers on my page rapidly increased. I felt appreciated every time someone leaves a comment or an encouraging message; those mean a lot to me. I used to lack confidence when it comes to my art, but thanks to everyone who encouraged me to fully realize that I have something special and to those who saw the best in me, I've gained self-confidence.



**Snowman Kotori**





**Q** Where do you think you should improve on and how will you do it?

I really think that I should improve on making dynamic poses and backgrounds. I'm currently practicing how to draw various poses so I can add more personality to the characters.

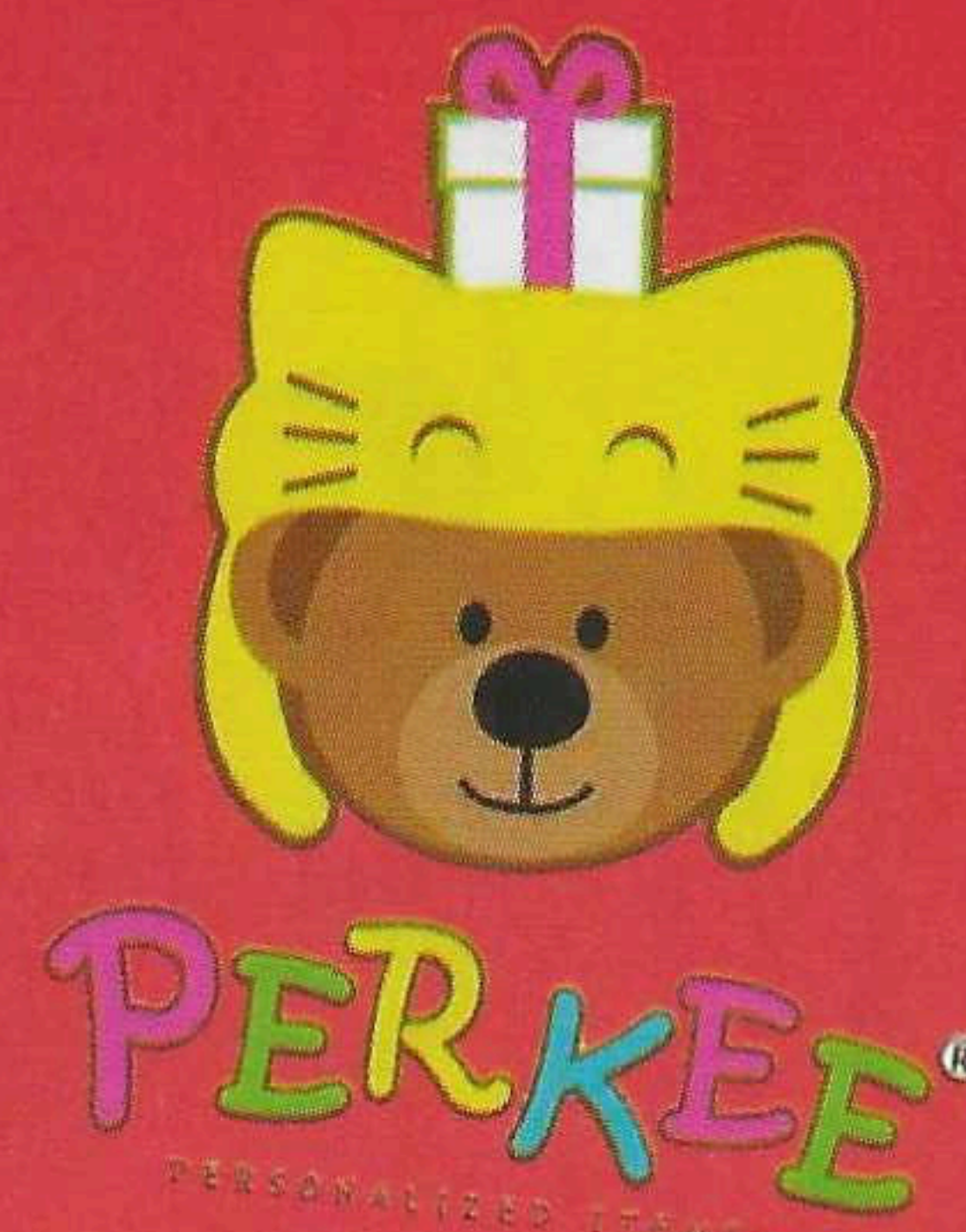


To my loving family, SLNDRNS friends, Pixitato artists, and to everyone who keeps on encouraging me to do my best, thank you very much for your never ending support! I will continue on pursuing this passion and I hope you'll be there for me throughout my journey.

Love Live- NicoMaki



0935 166 5849  
perkee2011@gmail.com







# ARASHI

One of the most successful boy bands in Japan and the group that the younger boy band generation looks up to –

Arashi might be composed of five individuals, but together, they perform as one. The year 2015 has already been promising with the unrivaled success of their newest studio album, Japonism. With Arashi's continuous success, more projects await them in the years to come.

**Arashi** has a reigning 16 years of success in the J-pop music industry. They were only in their early teens when they started, but Arashi or storm in Japanese, has indeed taken Asia by storm and other parts of the world for many years now. Arashi's trademark is their highly motivating lyrics, feel good music videos, and colorful costumes during concerts. The group is managed by a talent agency giant based in Tokyo, Japan, **Johnny & Associates**.

The first few years since their debut in 1999 however, were not kind to Arashi. When they transferred from the record label **Pony Canyon** to **J-storm**, there had been a decline in the record sales, and there came a time when only two singles had been released in one year. Arashi had also experienced low number of attendees in their concerts all over Japan. But due to the group's perseverance, continuous promotional activities, and songs that finally appealed to J-pop enthusiasts, Arashi made it back again on top in 2005.

As of 2015, they have over 30 million records sold and ranked as the second best-selling boyband in Asia.

Arashi consists of five energetic and hardworking members. They all dance and sing, and occasionally act in dramas and movies, but each of them has their own unmatched talents.



**Ohno Satoshi**

**Birthday:** November 26, 1980

The leader of Arashi and also the oldest member of the group, Ohno is often teased by his bandmates because of his easygoing personality and apparent spacing out in interviews. He is a man of few words and could be deemed lazy, but 35-year old Ohno loves his craft.

Aside from his work in Arashi, he acted in a few J-dramas since 2008.

Unbeknownst to Arashi's new fans, Ohno is also a painter and sculptor. Ohno's talent in many different areas is promising, and as the de facto leader of Arashi, it's not about his age but the experience that led him to this point in his career.

**Birthday:** January 25, 1982

Sho is the rapper of the group, and also often writes the rap lyrics in Arashi's songs. In one of the songs of Arashi describing each member of the group, Sho is described as a fine and serious guy. He is considered the elite member of Arashi as he is the only university graduate in the group with the degree Economics.

Thanks of his knowledge and fluency in many areas, he has been appointed as a main newscaster in NTV channel in many important sports events. As an actor, he is best known for his role as Yuuta Takemoto in the live action movie adaptation of Honey and Clover in 2007.



**Sho Sakurai**



**Aiba Masaki**

**Birthday:** June 17, 1983

The only member of Arashi who can play a wide range of musical instruments, Nino often plays the piano skillfully in his solo parts during concerts. He also composed many of Arashi's songs since 2004. Nino is apparently not only a versatile musician but also an award-winning actor. He starred in many TV dramas and movies, one of which is the renowned war film in 2006 directed by Clint Eastwood, Letters from Iwo Jima.

He is one of the main casts in the live action adaptation of popular manga, Gantz. He is also an occasional voice actor, having lent his voice to Koro-sensei in the live action film of Assassination Classroom in 2015.

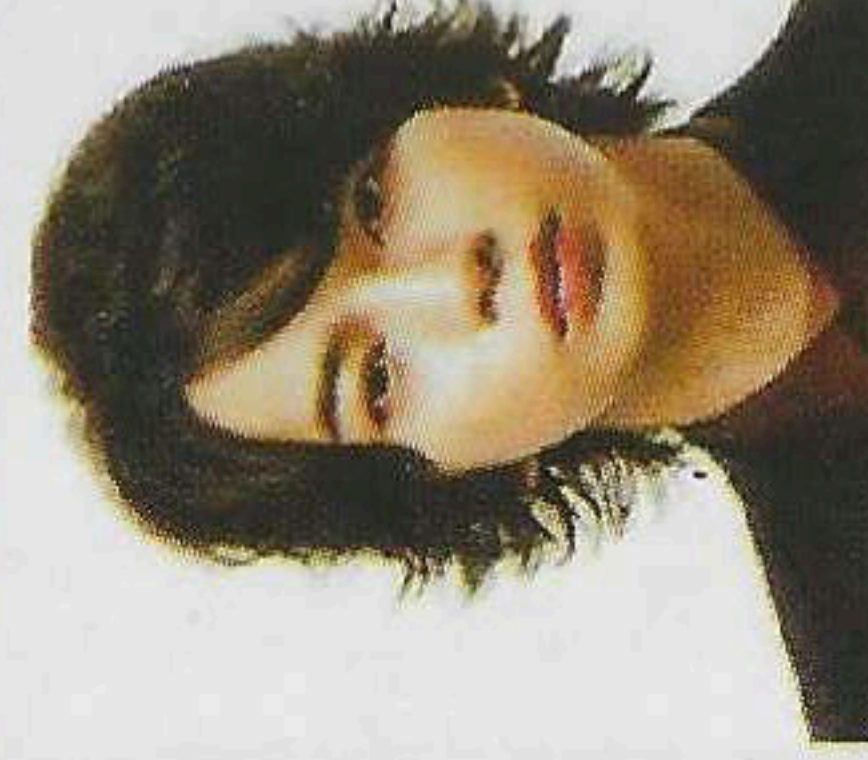


**Ninomiya Kazunari**

**Birthday:** August 26, 1983

Jun or Matsujun as his fans most often call him, is the youngest member of the group. Jun has become the most popular Arashi member after he portrayed as Domyouji Tsukasa in the live action adaptation of Hana Yori Dango. Two of Arashi's songs have been used in the drama and one for the movie. Other Arashi members agreed jokingly that if not for Jun joining Hana Yori Dango, they would not have recovered from their slump in their early years in the industry.

Jun is sometimes called the frog prince because of his nasal voice, but his skill in singing has greatly improved since their debut.



**Matsumoto Jun**





## OBI, THE MASTER OF LOVE TO YOUR RESCUE!!



As you may already know, I am Obi! Former assassin and currently bodyguard for Shirayuki, my master's girlfriend. Hehe.

My master Zen Wistaria, only the second prince of Clarines, has given me the task of keeping Shirayuki safe after my failed attempt at her life. It's kind of a joke now that I'm supposed to protect someone who used to be a target.

Enough about me (although, we'll get to me again later)!!

Today, I'll be giving you love advice. This is based on my experience with the two lovebirds. Did you watch the first season of *Akagami no Shirayuki-hime*? It took ten episodes for them to kiss!! Such babies, am I right?

Well, since our second season is out, I'm here to tell you:

### 1. Love yourself!

Even Rei Ayanami from *Evangelion* had said something familiar because it's true. Look at how much Shirayuki loves herself by



making her dreams come true on her own. She strives to become a herbalist for herself and so that she could be someone Zen can count on.

### 2. Try saying what you feel.

In any decent anime, there is a confession of love. It is better to voice out your intentions rather than the usual Filipino course of action which is to become a friend first. This can only land you in the friendzone or make you lose any relationship forever.

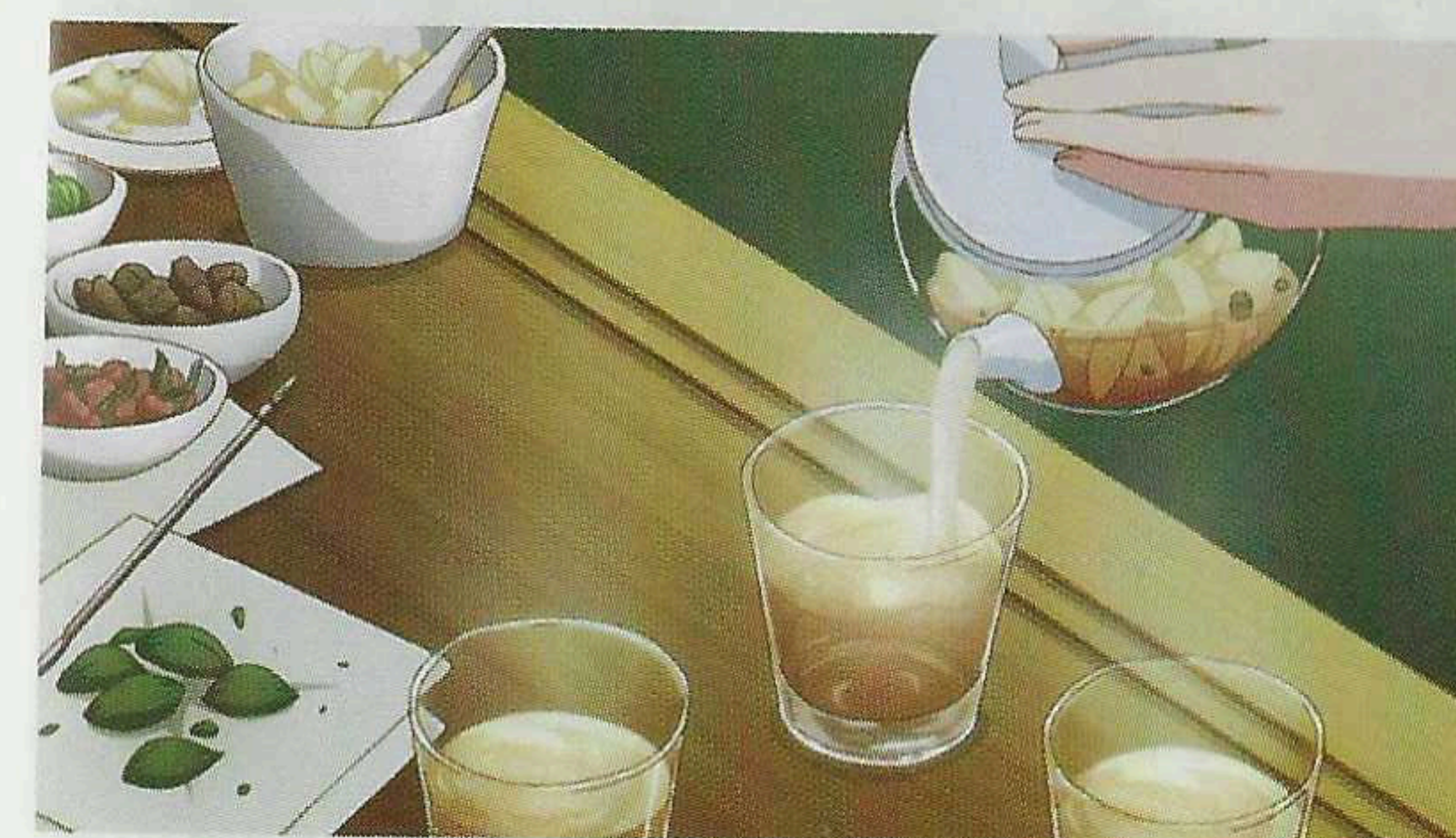
Zen and Shirayuki never really voiced out their intent but it was obvious in their actions. It's also fun if you have a friend like me who teases you about your crush every now and then.



### 3. Be passionate

In anything! You can be passionate about a hobby like cosplay, figure collecting or your work. Having something that you could capture your attention at anytime reassures your partner that you are passionate about them as well!

Those who are willing to spend thousands on a resin figure are also bound to spend quality time and give effort in a relationship. Just as how Shirayuki is passionate about her work!



### 4. Have friends to talk to

Zen has Mitsuhide and Kiki to advise him constantly about a lot of matters. Since Shirayuki is not from Clarines, she doesn't really have any friends but we have that in common.

I look up to her vigor and hard work and I would always be there for her if she needs someone to talk to about Zen. You will get to hear other views and insights on a matter and it will help you in your decision making!



### 5. Finally, include them in your decisions

Being on a relationship means that your actions will always have an effect on someone else. Like when Shirayuki decided to jump on the lake and risk hurting herself. The act ultimately had a positive outcome but it made Zen very worried and angry since she is very important to him.

None of these are set in stone and there could always be better advice out there but what matters in love the most is love itself.

You take care of yourself and always be happy! Happy Valentines!





# RICHARD CONCEPCION

City: Caloocan City

Favorite Anime: One Punch-Man

Favorite Food: Pizza, dumplings, fried chicken, carbonara, takoyaki

Favorite Color: black, blue & white

Do you have other hobbies aside from cosplay?

Playing guitar and drums, drawing, singing (rarely), watching anime & movies

When did you start cosplay?

August 2014. It was tons of fun. I was like a kid admiring everything with twinkling eyes from the toys and anime merchandise to the cosplayers just simply walking the halls of the events and the ones that joined the competition... it was a pretty amazing experience for me and so cool!

What/who motivated you to cosplay?

It was actually my own decision, when I first saw cosplayers on television I told myself that I want to be one too... just thinking that I can portray my favourite character even just for a day really excites me back then...

© Irukandji Rain

What is the first event you've attended?

Toycon 2014 held at SM Megamall

Who is your memorable cosplayed character?

Saitama is my most memorable cosplayed character

Which cosplay is your favorite?

Definitely Saitama.

What are your preferences in choosing and cosplay a character?

A bald guy who does not have a bulky build is my preference ever since I started cosplay.

2015 SHOTGUN PHOTOGRAPHY

What is your most challenging cosplay?

Saitama because almost everyone knows him and I need to be in character so much.

What are the things that you've learned from cosplay?

Camaraderie was the first thing, then the make-up skills from asking other cosplayers and watching tutorial videos, make-up brands usually used by my fellow cosplayers which for me is an achievement because I'm a guy and I don't have any knowledge about it when I started this hobby.

From the time you've started cosplay vs. now, what is the difference?

I don't have any idea about cosplay when I started, the fabric used on costumes, how to buy cosplay stuffs and where to buy them, how make-up can drastically change how your face looks like... but now I'm quite fond with all of those I've learned from experience... I rarely ask for help now from other cosplayers rather than when I was still a newbie.



Hello to all of you guys! just continue having fun at the conventions like we always do and if you need any advice or if you have any questions feel free to message me, i will try my utmost best to response to all of you!

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## BENTO BOX

By Ann

# Lets and Lets of Chocolive

Nothing says love sweeter than chocolates do! Luscious, smooth, creamy, indulgent — all these words cannot fairly describe the rich feeling we get when we have even just a bite of chocolate melt in our mouths. Because love is best expressed through action, we've decided to narrow down some of the best chocolate gifts you can give to the people you love this Valentine's.

These easy to make chocolate recipes are sure to express your warm thoughts to your loved ones:

## Chunky and Chewy Chocolate Chip Cookies

### Ingredients:

2 and 1/4 cups of all-purpose flour  
1/2 teaspoon of salt  
1 teaspoon of baking soda  
1 and 1/2 teaspoons of cornstarch  
3/4 cup of melted unsalted butter

3/4 cup of light brown sugar  
1/2 cup of granulated sugar  
1 egg  
1 egg yolk  
2 teaspoons of vanilla extract  
1 cup of semi-sweet chocolate chips

### Steps:

1. Combine the dry ingredients: all-purpose flour, salt, cornstarch, and baking soda.
2. Mix butter and sugar well until smooth, add in the egg and egg yolk, and combine the vanilla extract.
3. Mix the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until the dough becomes very thick and soft. Add in the chocolate chips until they're all in a big dough.
4. Cover the bowl and refrigerate for at least 2 hours.
5. Preheat the oven to 325°F while you wait for the dough to adjust to room temperature.
6. Prepare the baking sheets with parchment paper and be sure to clean your hands before scooping some dough and rolling them into tall balls on the paper to make sure that they are thick when baked.
7. Put the cookies into the oven and bake for 10-12 minutes or depending on your oven. They should come out as thick and soft, like they were not fully baked. Let them cool for about 10 minutes before enjoying.

## Cookie Dough Chocolate Cups

For this recipe, we're going to need a different kind of cookie dough:

6 tablespoons of melted butter  
1/2 cup of light brown sugar  
3 ounce of cream cheese  
4 tablespoons of granulated sugar  
1 and 1/4 cups of all-purpose flour

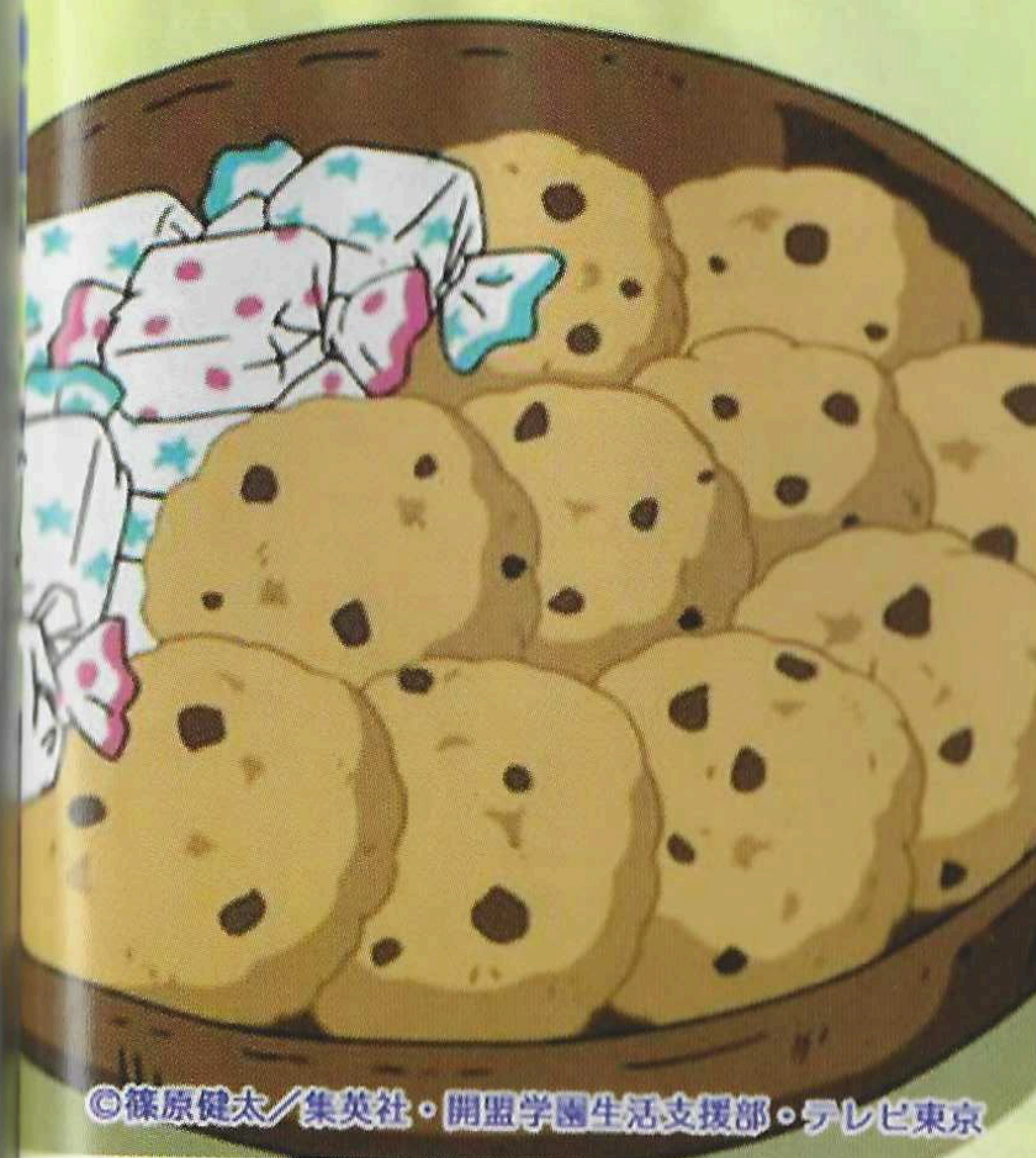
1/4 teaspoon of baking soda  
1/4 teaspoon of salt  
2 teaspoons of vanilla extract  
3/4 cup of mini chocolate chips

For the chocolate cover:

1 cup chocolate chips

### Steps:

1. Mix melted butter with sugar. Add in cream cheese and sugar.
2. Combine flour, baking soda, salt, and vanilla extract until the entire mixture becomes dough. Fold in the mini chocolate chips, and roll them into small balls. Set aside.
3. Melt the chocolate chips either through microwave oven (60 seconds) or in a double broiler over simmering water.
4. Pour a small amount of melted chocolate on a tray of muffin cups. Place the flattened cookie dough in the middle of each cup and cover with the rest of the melted chocolate.
5. Chill them for 30 minutes.



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## Fudgy Brownies

### Ingredients:

1/2 cup of unsalted butter  
8 ounces of chopped semisweet chocolate  
3/4 cup of granulated sugar  
1/4 cup of light brown sugar  
3 large eggs  
1/4 cup of unsweetened cocoa powder  
1/2 cup and 2 tablespoons of all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract  
1/2 teaspoon of salt  
1 cup of semi-sweet chocolate chips

### Steps:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F while you line the pan with parchment paper, making sure that there is an overhang on all sides.
2. Melt butter and chocolate and stir until smooth over double broiler. Take it off the heat.
3. Whisk in the sugars and add one egg at a time until they are all combined. Fold in cocoa powder, salt, and flour. When batter is carefully mixed, add in the chocolate chips for the extra chocolate.
4. Pour contents into the pan. Bake for 35-40 minutes. You can check that they're ready with the toothpick test in which the moist crumbs should stick on to the toothpick when inserted in the middle of the brownies.
5. Set aside until cool and pull out using the excess parchment on the sides of the pan. Remove parchment and let it cool completely until they are ready to be cut into squares. You can also sprinkle the brownies with icing sugar or cocoa powder depending on your taste.



# Running out of time?

We've listed down some of the best places to get your wrapped sweet presents ready just in time for the occasion.

## Pastry Armoire

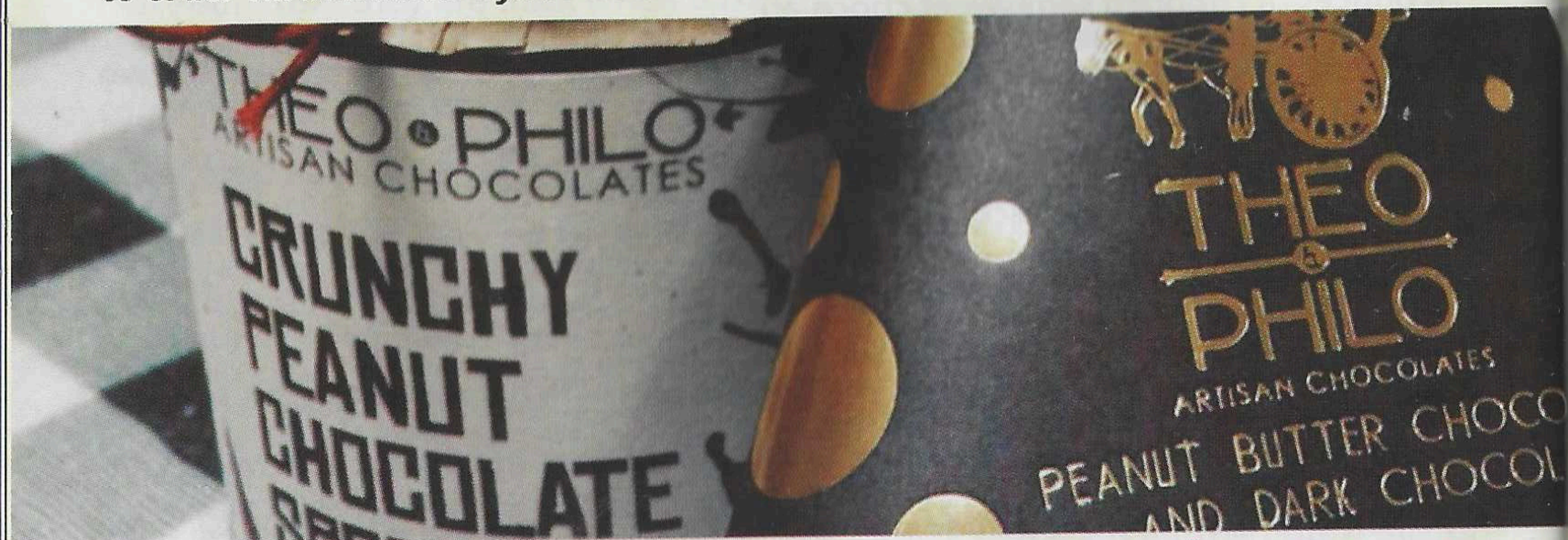
We recently featured Chef Anna Chua's wondrous creations of kashi maki for, Pink Wasabi, which, may we add, are also delightful gifts for the chocolate-giving season.

However, Pastry Armoire is another lineup of the goodies that chef makes. Their bestsellers are the sticky buns and the salted caramel opera cake, but their fudgy tablea brownies can make you fall in love! They're currently located at 2nd floor Ivory Building, El Grande Avenue corner Florence Street, BF Homes Parañaque.



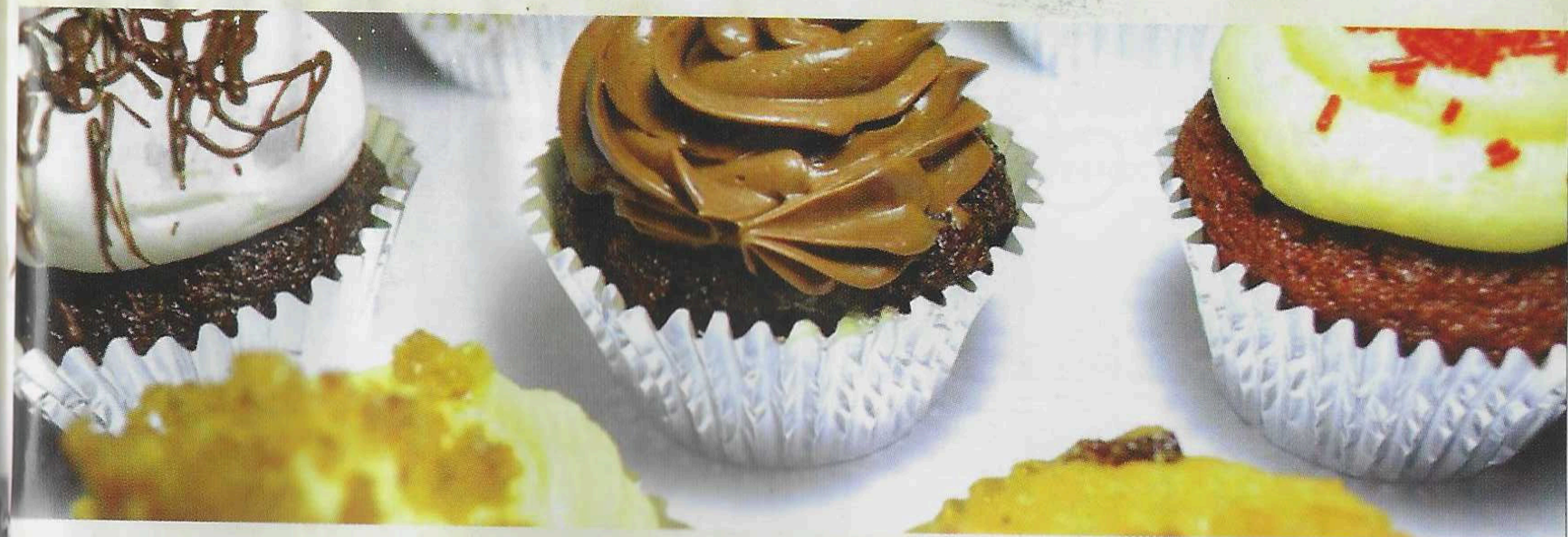
## The Bald Baker

Since we got you hyped up with cookies, here's one chef that plays around with chocolate and gets kids (and even more adults) asking for more. Based in Bonifacio Global City, pastry chef Cy Ynares got to our list through his bestselling Choco Chollow, which is rich and chocolatey choco cookie dough that comes with dark, semi-sweet, and bittersweet chocolate mixed with marshmallows. You can reach him to order via [baldbaker@yahoo.com](mailto:baldbaker@yahoo.com) or 09175116370.



## Theo & Philo

If you're feeling adventurous, you might want to bite into the chocolate bars and spreads of Theo & Philo which have a variety of extra ingredients added in their local chocolate (from cacao beans from Davao) such as labuyo, adobo, calamansi, and green mango and salt. It also prides itself as "the only bean to bar chocolate in the Philippines." Don't also miss out on another bestseller, 70% dark chocolate bar. Their products are available in stores such as selected branches of Bo's Coffee, Human Nature, and Gourdo's.



## Cake Shots

Since we talked about being adventurous, how about giving sweet innocent cupcakes a bit of a sexy twist? Try their Black Label Chocoholic if you want that sweet chocolate flavor fused with the edgy twist of Johnny Walker Black Label. If you're feeling less adventurous, you can also go for their Wild Chocolate which is the "classic moist chocolate cupcake with marshmallow frosting" topped with melted chocolate. You can place your orders on [www.fb.com/cakeshotsph](http://www.fb.com/cakeshotsph) or 09063269209.

## Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory

You will never go wrong with chocolates here as the mere mention of its name would make you excited. Recently opened last December, Rocky Mountain is an international franchise from Durango, Colorado, which has over 300 chocolate varieties, from bites to creams, barks to chocolate-covered goodies. Check them out at the lower ground floor in UP Town Center, Katipunan Avenue, Quezon City.

## Villa del Conte

Authentic Italian Chocolates are Villa del Conte's game, and it's fair to say that they are a great success at what they do given their overwhelming choices of chocolate treats. They've got the praline balls and sticks oozing with chocolate fillings of your choice such as cacao cream, caramel cream, strawberry cream, and macadamia cream. Their ovicini, although shaped like eggs, are not only popular during Easters but all throughout the year with its always relevant chocolate insides.

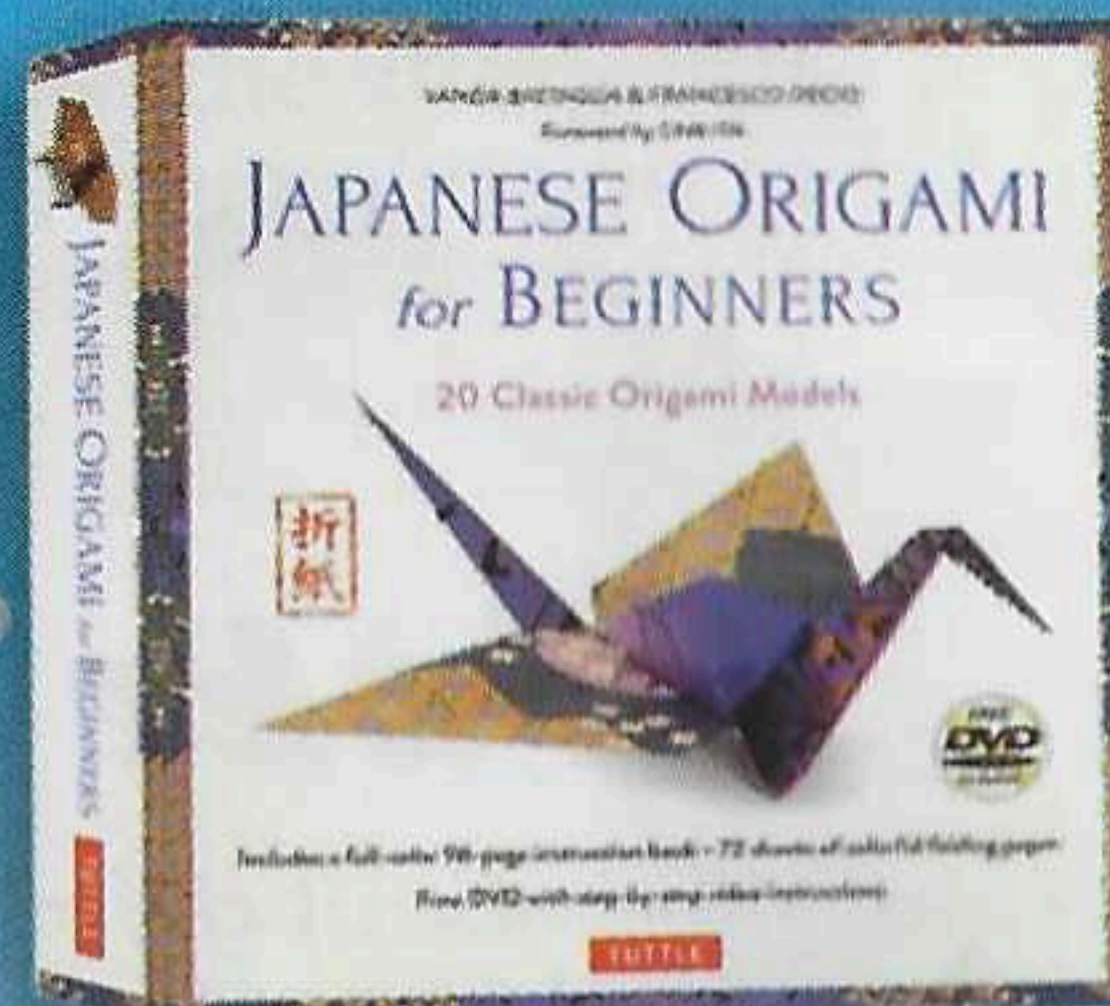
Because of the constant growing popularity of Villa del Conte, they have made their products available through the following branches: 3rd floor in Shangri-La Plaza Mall, 2nd floor in Greenbelt 5, lower ground floor in Robinsons Magnolia, ground floor in Resorts World Manila, lower ground floor in Alabang Town Center, ground floor in Century City Mall, and their latest branch at the second floor in Mega Fashion Hall of SM Megamall.

These chocolate goodies are not just going to satisfy the love that you want to express but also your own heart for chocolate. So, if you think you and your loved ones have had enough chocolates, that's never always true!

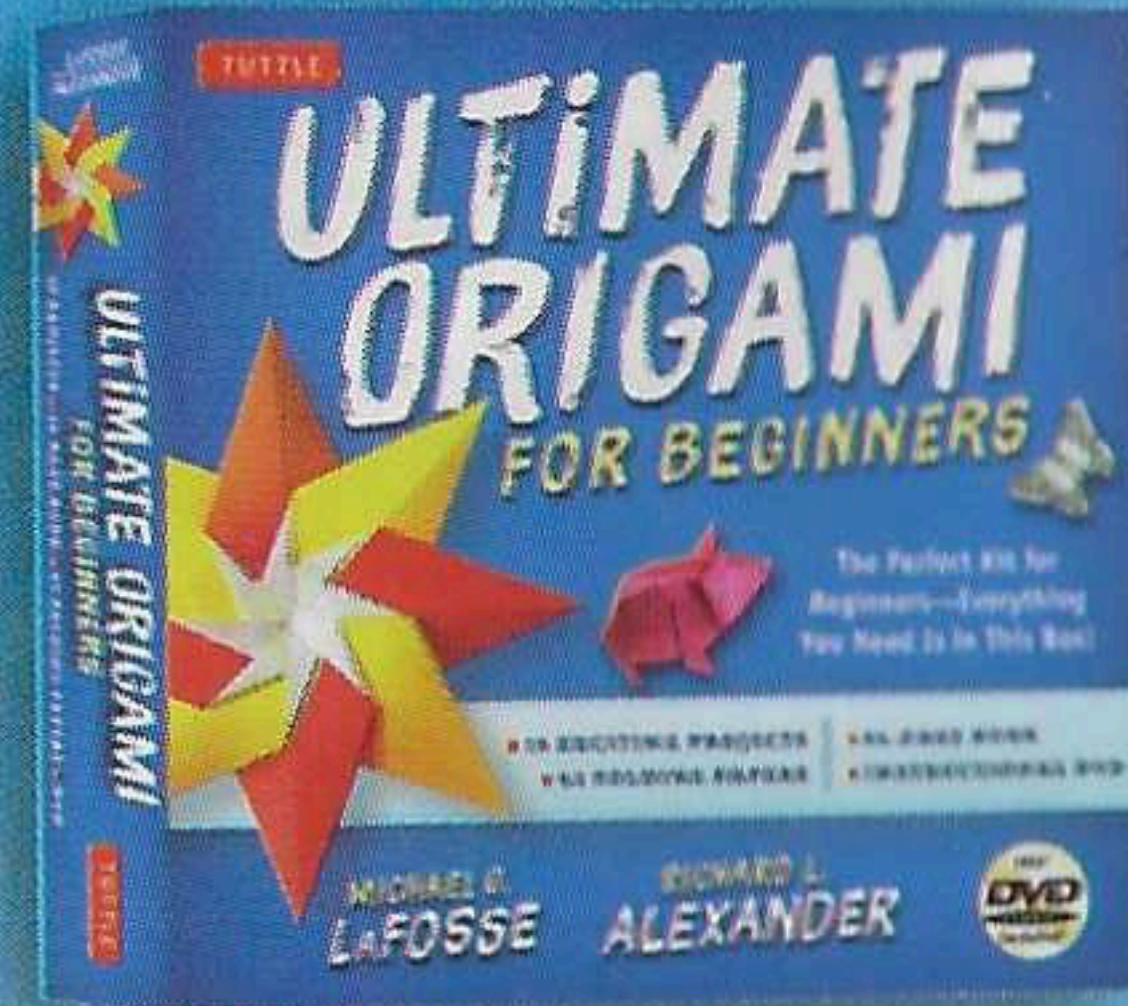


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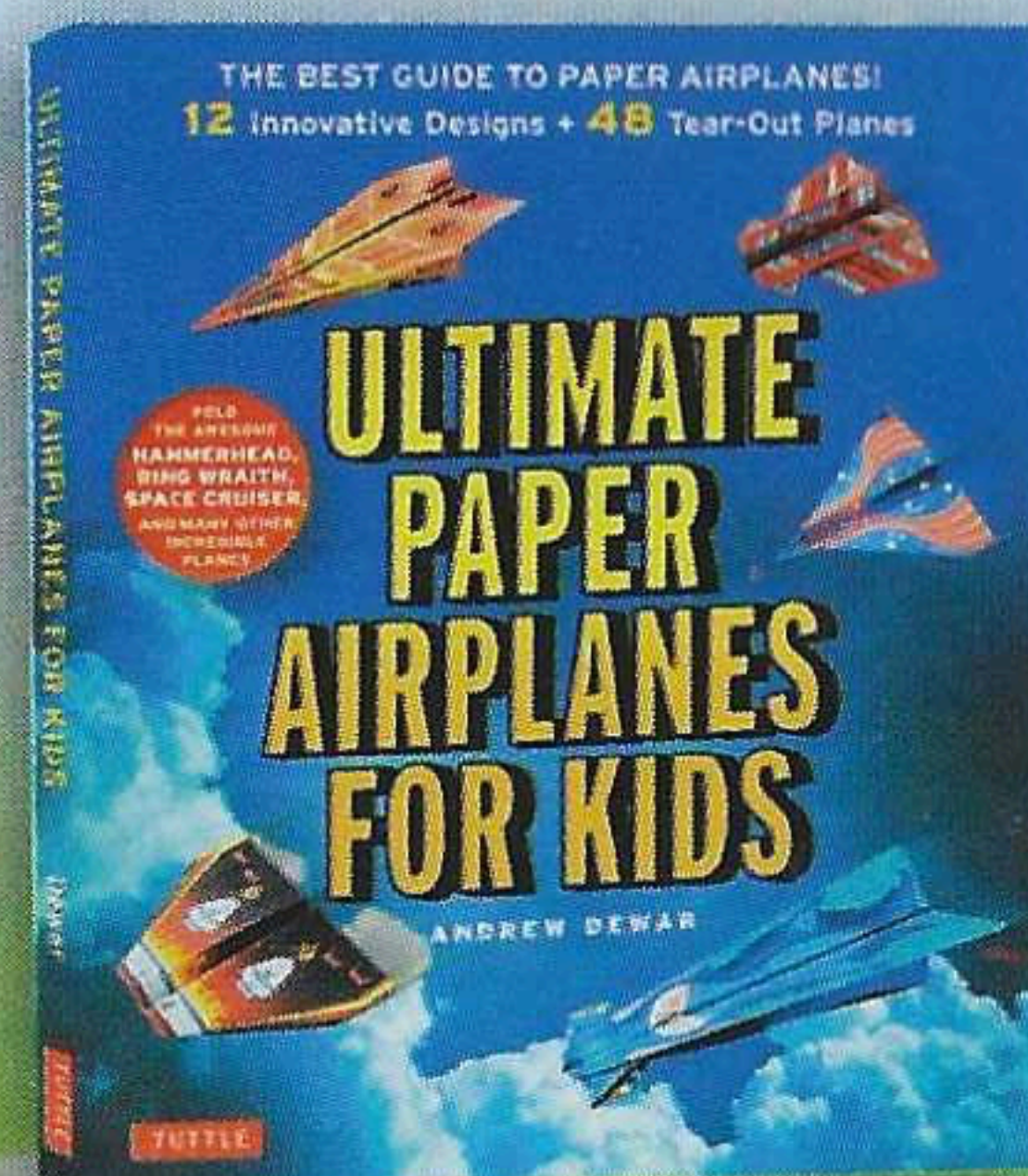
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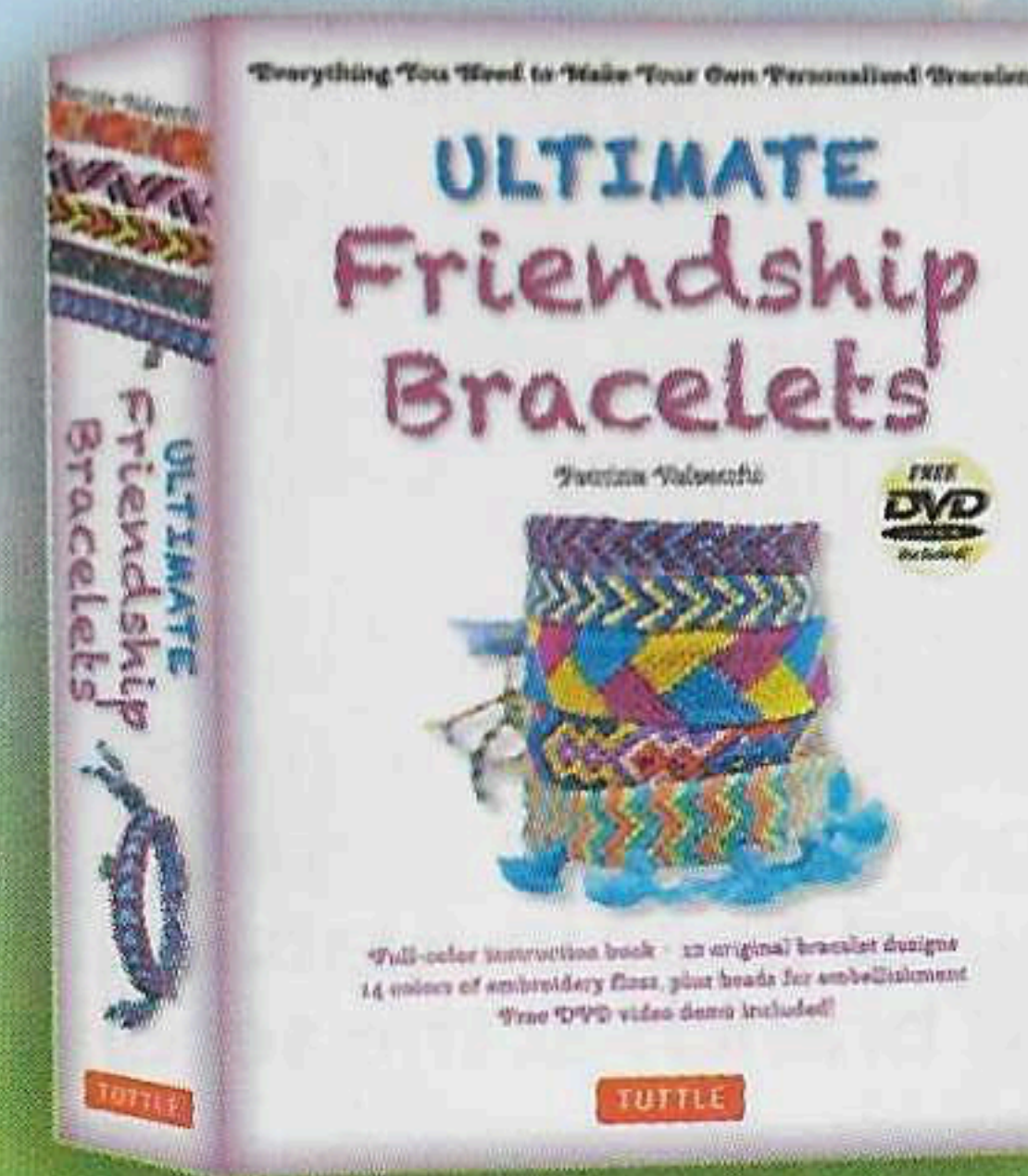
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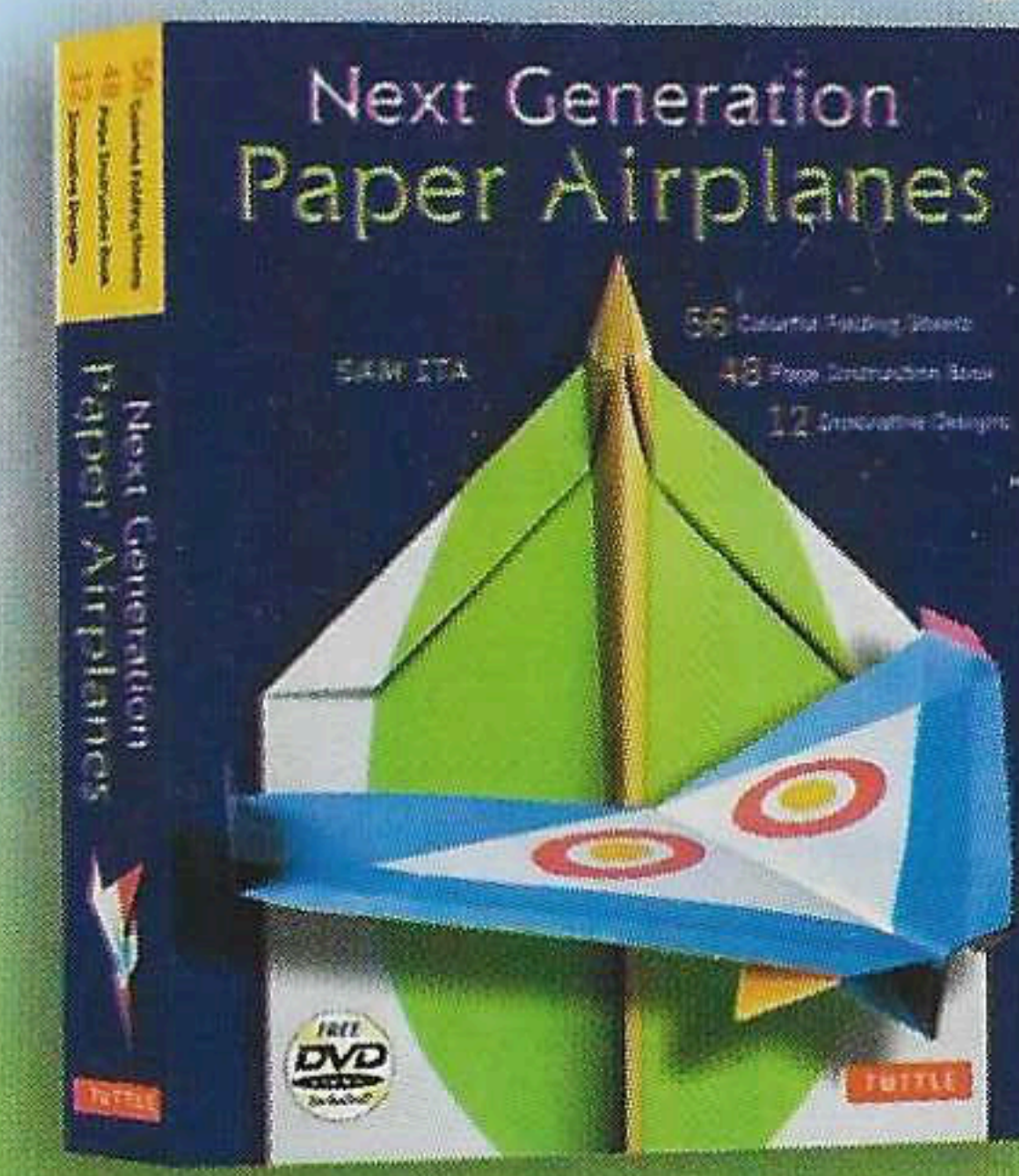
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**Tokyo Bubble Tea** is a great Japanese place to have your lunch, light snack meals, dinner or even when you come with your sesame street pajamas to have your midnight snacks. It is a great place to hangout with your friends and family where our ambiance encourages fun and laughter from menu, service and comfy place all year round!

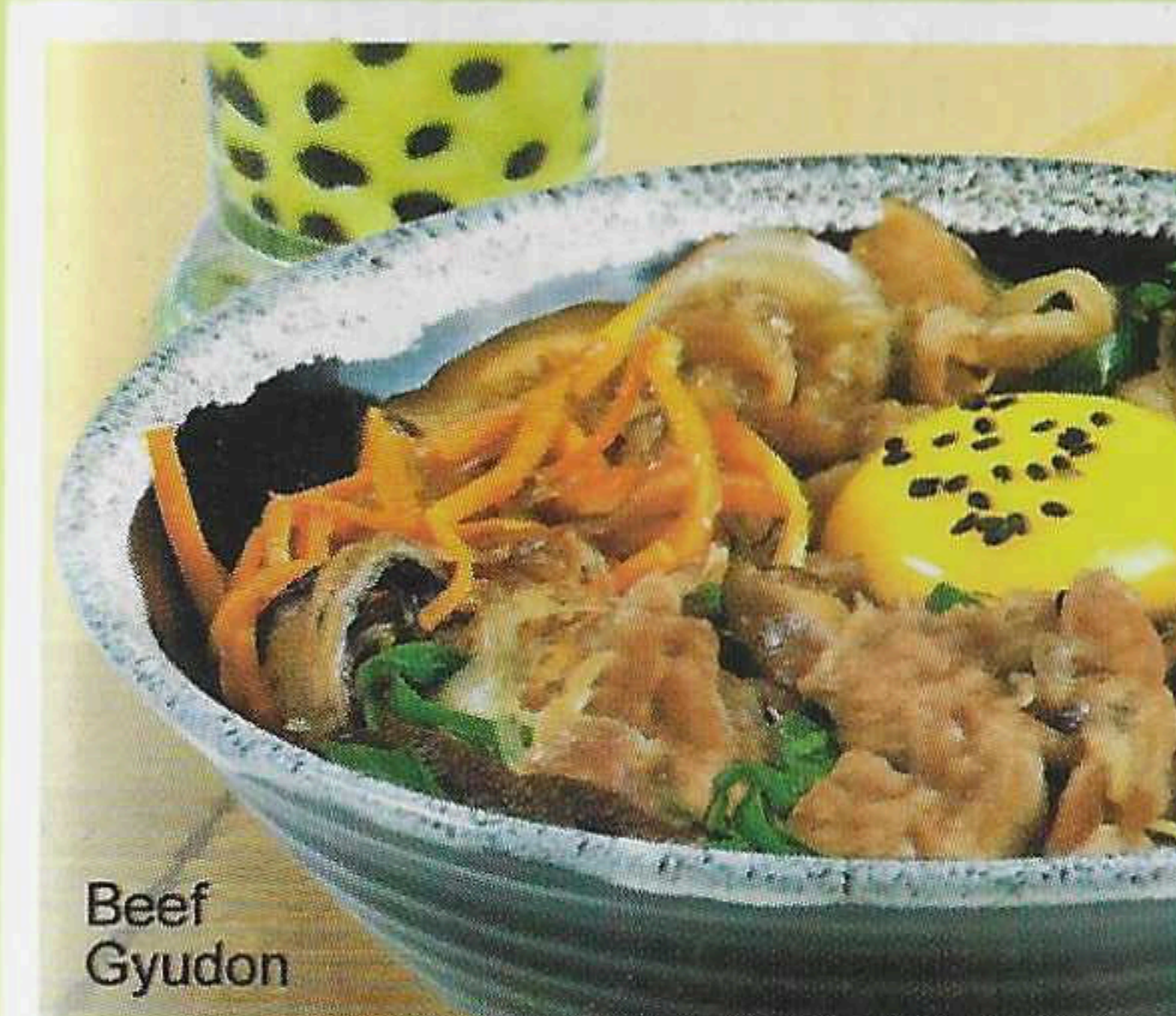


### Our Story

Tokyo Bubble Tea restaurant is a Philippine homegrown concept founded and managed by McWilson Group of Restaurants. It all started year 2007 when McWilson Group of Restaurants owners wished to introduce bubble milk tea drinks in Manila, along with Japanese style ambiance and food. The name bubble tea is derived from the drink popularized around Asia and we used it as our brand name to represent us that we specialize in brewing premium milk tea served with the best bubbles.



Nippon Ebi



Beef Gyudon

### Our Product

We brew our tea everyday to give you the top-quality, fresh, healthy and all natural Tea drinks served with fun soft-chewy bubbles, Tokyo style. In addition, we only offer good, healthy and freshly-cooked food to make sure you get the best out of your favorite Japanese cuisine.



Due to overwhelming response of our customers, Bubble Tea is planning to expand its business and open more outlets in and outside Metro Manila.

Currently, Bubble Tea has branches in SM Megamall & SM North EDSA-The Block, which started 2007, and in Tomas Morato, Q.C. & Wilson, Greenhills, which started 2010, at The Fort, which started 2011 and now open at Westgate in Alabang, Harborpoint in Subic, Robinsons Place in Bacolod and Marquee Mall in Pampanga.



# 赤髪の白雪姫

Snow White with the Red Hair

## Tale Continues

article by: Elaine

The color of fate radiates from her, millions of red threads that is her bridge to her beautiful destiny.

Living as an herbalist in her hometown of Tanbarun, Shirayuki is a completely normal country girl except for her unusually long bright red hair. Prince Raj, who is currently looking for the most beautiful girl in Tanbarun, heard about red-haired Shirayuki and summoned her to his castle to make her his concubine. This idea was loathed by Shirayuki, thus, before the night when she will be escorted to the castle, she cut her hair and escaped from the kingdom, leaving her cut hair for the prince to get fed up with.

While escaping through the forest, Shirayuki met Zen Wistalia with his two aides Mitsuhide and Kiki. They easily became friends and through him Shirayuki found a new path she wanted to walk on. With her talent, Shirayuki gets accepted as a court herbalist in Clarines, the prosperous kingdom where Zen is the second prince. Their worlds are different, but they try their best to minimize the gap. The two of them work hard to improve themselves and become the strength of each other.

Season 1 of Akagami no Shirayukihime has successfully ended last October, and now Season 2 was announced to air this January 2016. It took nine years before Sorata Akizuri's same titled ongoing manga series was finally animated by Bones. The manga itself has gained good reviews from the readers as it has a unique refreshing taste compared to most shoujo stories.



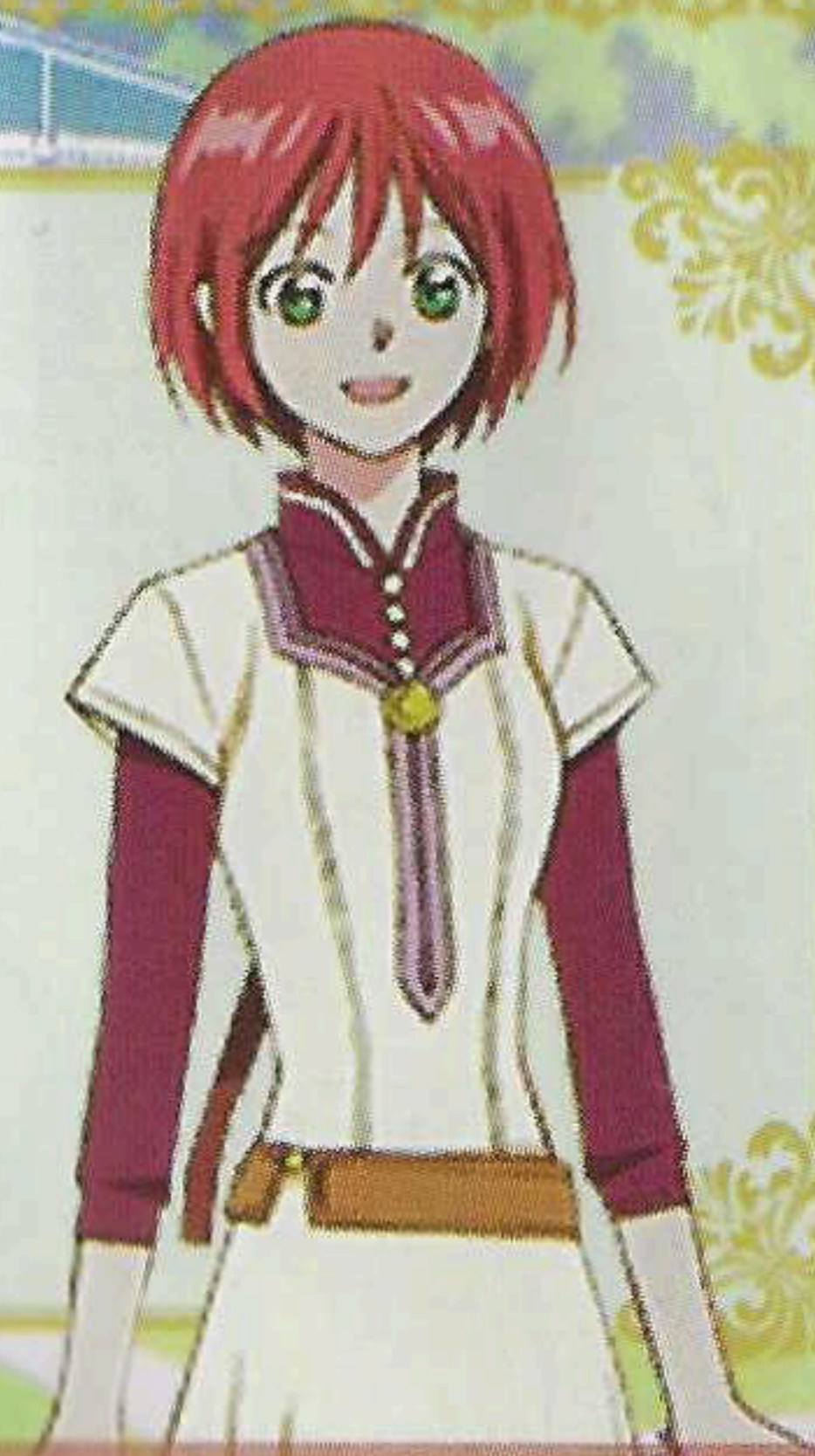
# Let's meet the characters once again!



## Shirayuki

voiced by: Saori Hayami

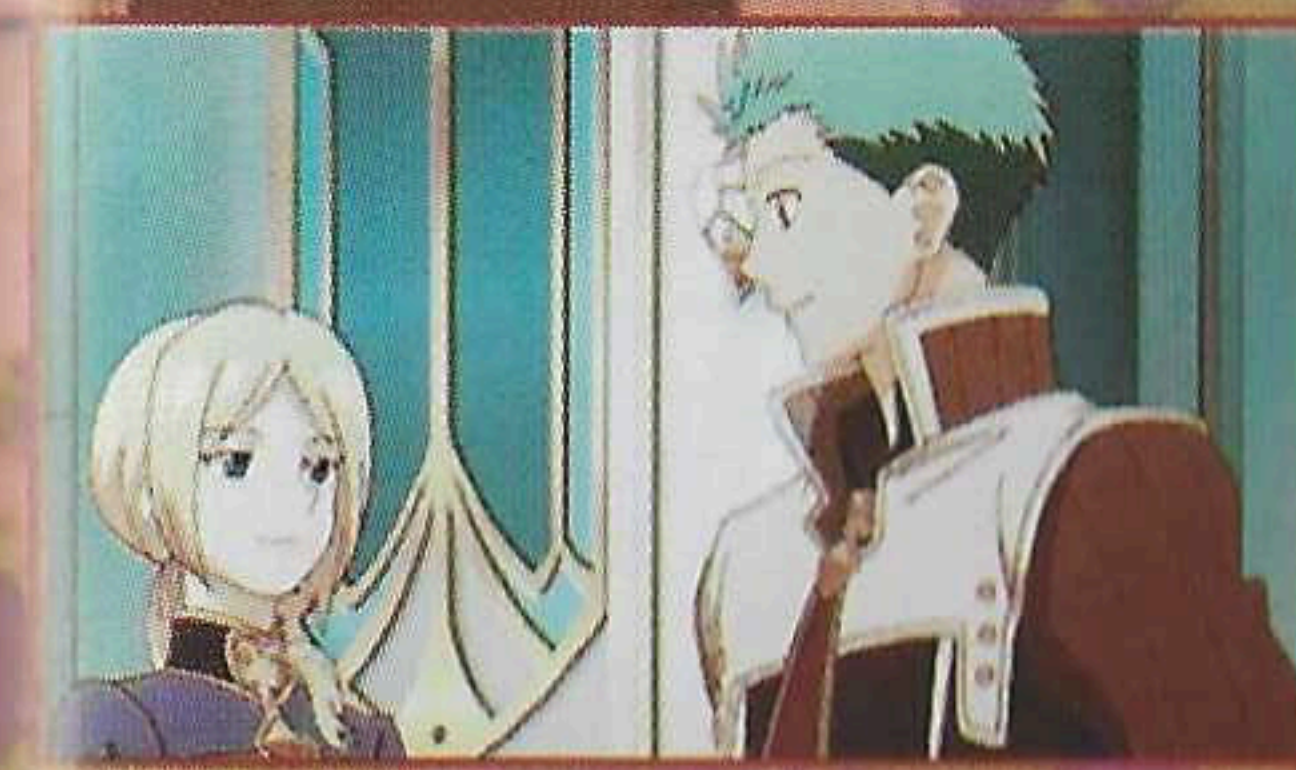
Not those typical damsel in distress princesses that we know. She is a strong-willed, smart girl who is now the girlfriend of Prince Zen. She works as an apprentice court herbalist and is well-known for her hair that is red like an apple.



## Mitsuhide Lowen

voiced by: Yuichiro Umehara

First and most trusted aide of Zen. He is known as the best in combat among those who serve in the castle, and he is one of the few people Zen only listens to. Romance you say? Yup, we might be able to see his story this season.



## Zen Wistalia

voiced by: Ryota Osaka

Second prince of Clarines. He is the type of prince who loves to mingle with his people, so often he sneaks out of the castle just to see firsthand how people live their lives.



## Kiki Seiran

voiced by: Kaori Nazuka

Mitsuhide's partner as Zen's aides. She is normally composed and also good in combat despite being a woman. She is the one in charge of Zen's schedules. Her background story is one of the arcs that should be anticipated in the series.







## Obi

voiced by: Nobuhiko Okamoto

Official messenger of Zen. Or at least that is what his identification says. He is also one of Zen's close aides, even though at the past he initially approached Shirayuki with ill-intent. After gaining Zen's trust, he now protects and serves both Zen and Shirayuki.



## Ryu

voiced by: Yūko Sanpei

Youngest court herbalist in Clarines. He is the 13-year-old supervisor of Shirayuki. Not very sociable, but he has a wide knowledge when it comes to herbs and medicines. His favorite flower is yuka shigure, which has the same color as Shirayuki's hair.



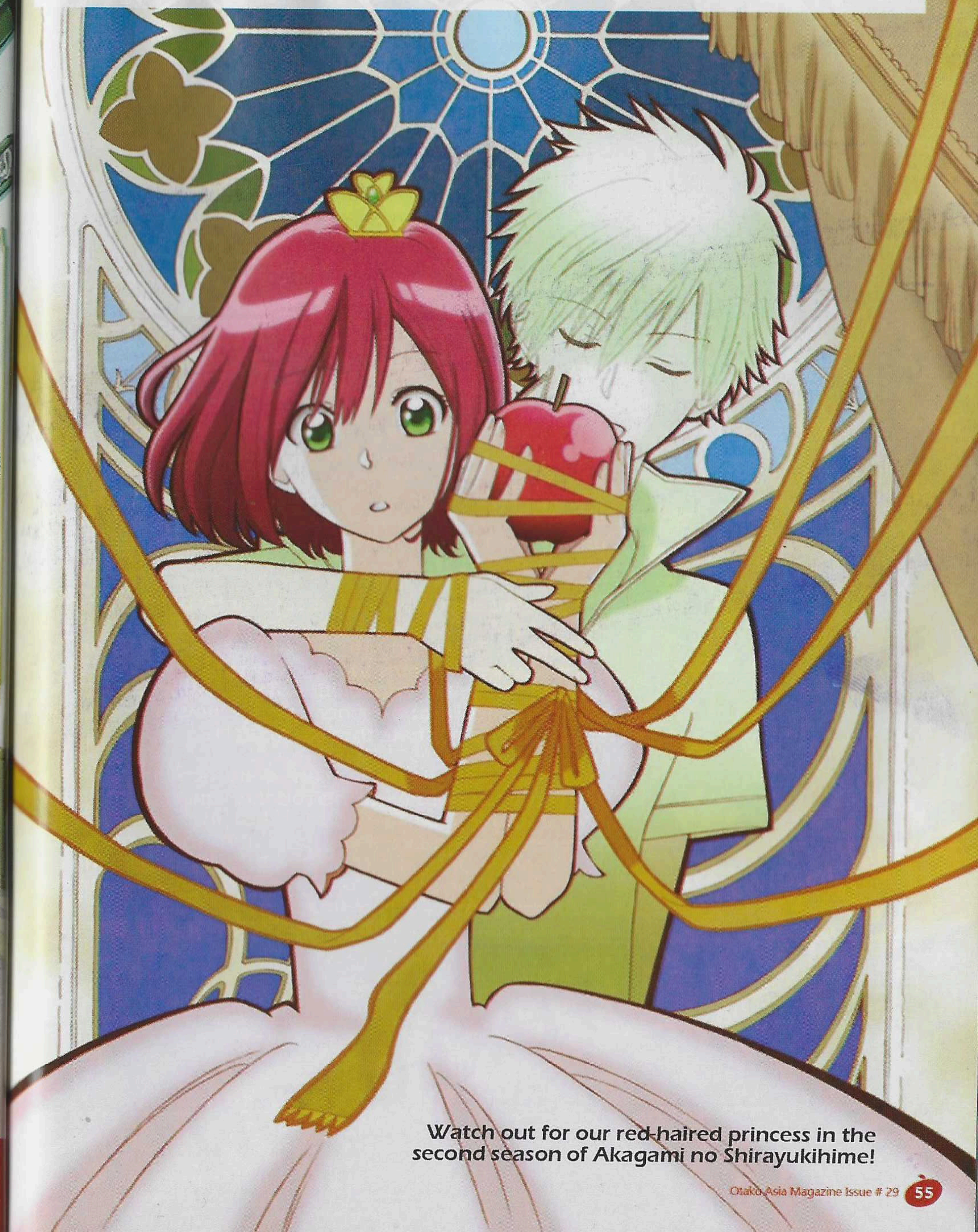
## Izana Wistalia

voiced by: Akira Ishida

First prince of Clarines. His cold eyes and smile and his opposition towards Zen and Shirayuki's relationship might make you hate him, but he actually is a respectable soon-to-be king of Clarines. Even Zen acknowledges it and admitted to have been wanting to follow his lead. He will play an important role in his brother's love story.

Hearing all the prince, princess and other cliché terms in romance stories, you might think that this is also one of the old shoujo plot stories that we know. Ironically, this can be your rest from those. The freshest thing is how the main female lead is not overly reliant to his partner. In addition, Shirayuki does not make any stupid decisions that we usually witness from all female protagonists. There is no "she shouldn't have done that and did this instead" moment we all hate. The story is not a hundred percent unpredictable though, yet just with that and you can still stick with the story for long.

Moreover, first season of the anime adaptation is not added with any unnecessary fillers in between (which is usual in shoujo adaptations for fan service), thus not messing up with the original characters' profile and personalities. In the second season, aside from the relationship development between Zen and Shirayuki, you can also look forward on more side stories about the three aides and the kingdom that is equally interesting.



Watch out for our red-haired princess in the second season of Akagami no Shirayukihime!





## CHARACTER BIO

**Titles:** The Black Rider, Headless Rider  
**Specie:** Dullahan  
**Age:** ???  
**Birthday:** Everyday (Decided by Shinra)  
**Occupation:** Transporter  
**Hobbies:** Gaming, watching TV and internet surfing  
**Likes:** Shinra  
 and her headless horse Shooter  
**Dislikes:** Supernatural  
**Handle Name:** Setton, Seruru  
**CV:** Miyuki Sawashiro

Celty is a type of fairy called Dullahan who came from Ireland and came to Japan in search of her stolen head. Celty always wears a helmet when going out in public in order to avoid suspicion and she also disguises her trusted steed, Shooter as a motorcycle. The headless Celty ironically loves chatting with others and uses her PDA as a means of communication.

Celty currently lives with Shinra while working as an underground transporter who accepts various dangerous jobs from the dark side of Ikebukuro. Though trying her hardest to be inconspicuous, her dark aura and unusual escapades gain her many unwanted fans from within the city and she quickly rose through the ranks of famous urban legends.

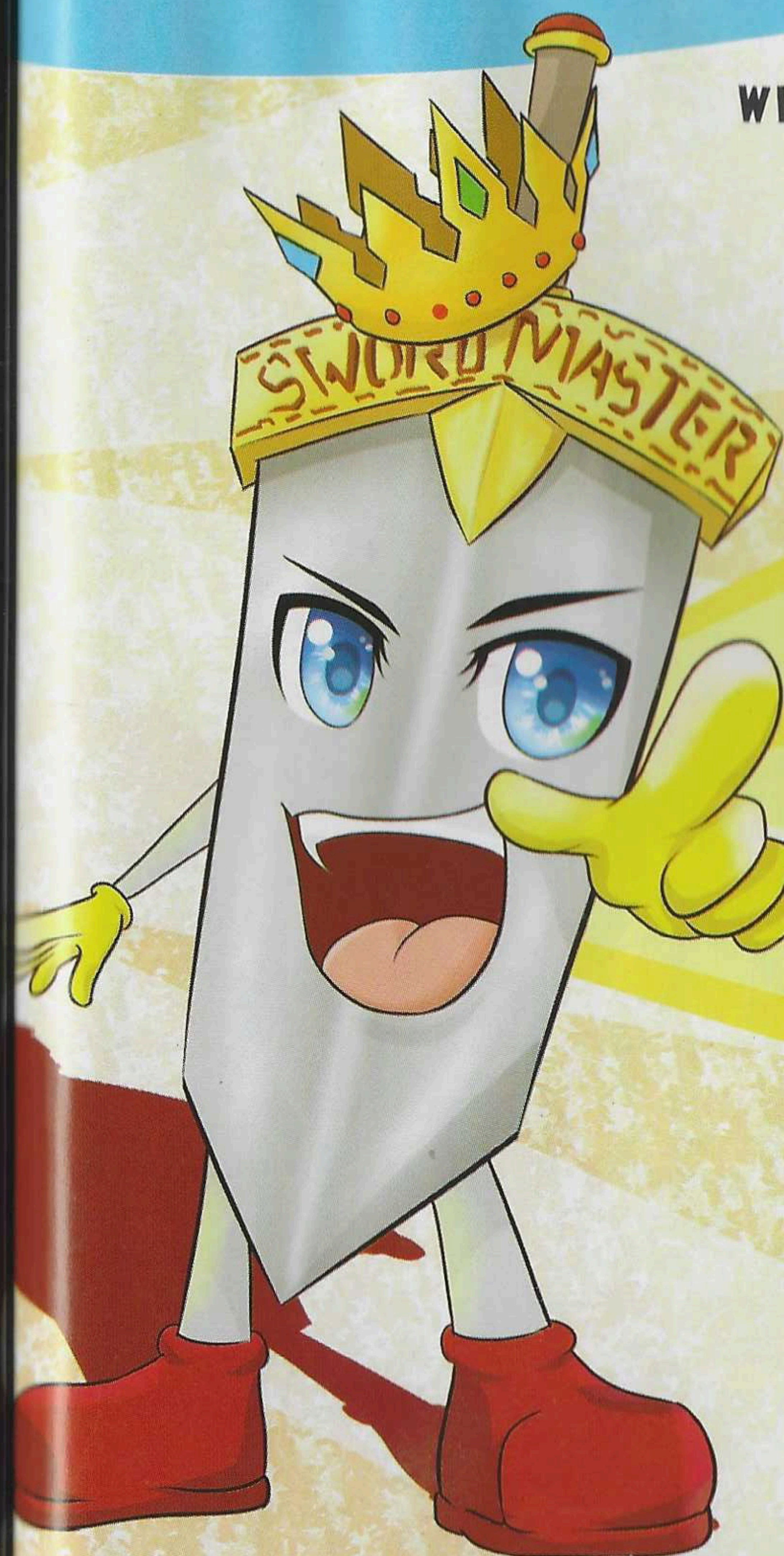
In terms of power, Celty is constantly being debated as one of the most powerful individuals within Ikebukuro. Even though she cannot match Simon or Shizuo when it comes to raw strength, Celty's abilities are still above the capabilities of an average man and she has full control over her esoteric power to control shadows and animate them as objects.

Despite not being human, Celty actually displays the most down-to-earth personality amongst the cast of the show. Due to her countless interactions with different individuals, Celty was able to develop her personality and gain a multitude of experience throughout the series. Confident and always brimming with optimism, Celty continues her search for her missing head in hopes of acquiring her lost memories.

# CELTY STURLUSON

# THE SWORD MASTER

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REAL WEAPONS



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# MOVIE REEL



Return of the  
Digidestined  
Digimon  
Adventure  
tri.

脚本・原案: 本郷あきよし 企画・製作: 東映アニメーション

©本郷あきよし・東映アニメーション

Back in November 2015, nostalgia is felt because the wait of the awaited return of the first Digidestined was shown through the first part of this 6 part movie. This first part entitled Digimon Adventure tri: Reunion focuses on the lead character Yagami Taichi and the reunion of the Digidestined and their partner Digimon as a new threat approaches their lives.



Digimon Adventure Tri. is a six-part film series of Akiyoshi Hongo's Digimon franchise and was produced by Toei Animation. It is directed by Keitaro Motonaga and produced by Takagi Katsuhiko with the scripts by Yuuko Kakiyama. The film serves as a direct sequel to the first two series Digimon Adventure and Digimon Adventure 02 and is part of the Digimon Adventure 15th Anniversary celebration. The film is released on a region-free DVD and Blu-ray in Japan back in December 2015. It can also be streamed in an episodic format outside Japan through Crunchyroll.



The feels surely is strong and will make you sing along when the song Butter-Fly is performed again by Koji Wada for its opening song as the characters are introduced. Along with the return of this opening is the ending song I Wish that's performed again by Ai Maeda along with Brave Heart that will be performed again by Ayumi Miyazaki.

The character designs by Atsuya Uki is different from the one we used to see but you'll be sure to recognize our beloved characters, grown up and facing high school life. Along with the returning characters are the returning voices behind them. You'll get to see your favorite Digimon and their evolutions in action scenes that will surely get you hooked. New characters along with new Digimon will be introduced as the story progresses on.

There are still a lot of questions after the first film and the film's pace created a huge anticipation for the rest of the parts. Join the hype train and let's wait for the second part, entitled Determination, to know more of the events in Digimon Adventure Tri!







## Would You Date a Cyclops Girl? Love at First Sight

by Reikisha

You are **Mamoru Fukunaga**, a transfer student who has yet to adjust to the new academic environment. Even so, you managed to become close friends with **Tomoyori Ochiai** and **Akemi Tsunemi** from your class during your first two months at school. One day, your curiosity leads you to a fateful encounter with an injury-ridden girl crying alone in the stairs. After getting a closer look at her face, you discovered that she's no ordinary high school girl.



That very moment you laid your eyes upon the single-eyed girl named **Sachi Usui**, there's no doubt in your heart that it was love at first sight.

**Hitomebore (Love at First Sight)** is an all-ages indie kinetic novel created by **Creepy Cute** and published by **Sekai Project**. The game was available for purchase via Steam on May 18, 2015.

### Review

Hitomebore is an example of a kinetic novel—a type of visual novel that narrates the story without giving multiple choices that may put the player in a specific character route. Due to the fact that kinetic novels only offer one possible ending, they usually take 2-10 hours long to play.

In this heart-warming romance game, the player follows Mamoru Fukunaga's quest to win over Sachi Usui's lonely and isolated heart. Hitomebore primarily focuses on Mamoru and Sachi's interactions that will ultimately lead to them officially dating while maintaining the purity of their relationship. The game may show comical scenes most of the time, but when it transitioned to a heavy drama scene, you'll feel like you want to cry along with Sachi.

If there's a downside to this game, it's the overall playtime it can offer to its players. It is only 2 hours long because the developer himself mentioned that many concepts he originally planned didn't make it in the final version of the game. Thus, the overall story feels slightly incomplete since the game is missing crucial story concepts.



Are you interested to know more about the apple of Mamoru's eyes?

Hitomebore is definitely worth checking out. Despite its fatal flaw, this kinetic novel guarantees that it will keep you at the edge of your seat until the very end.

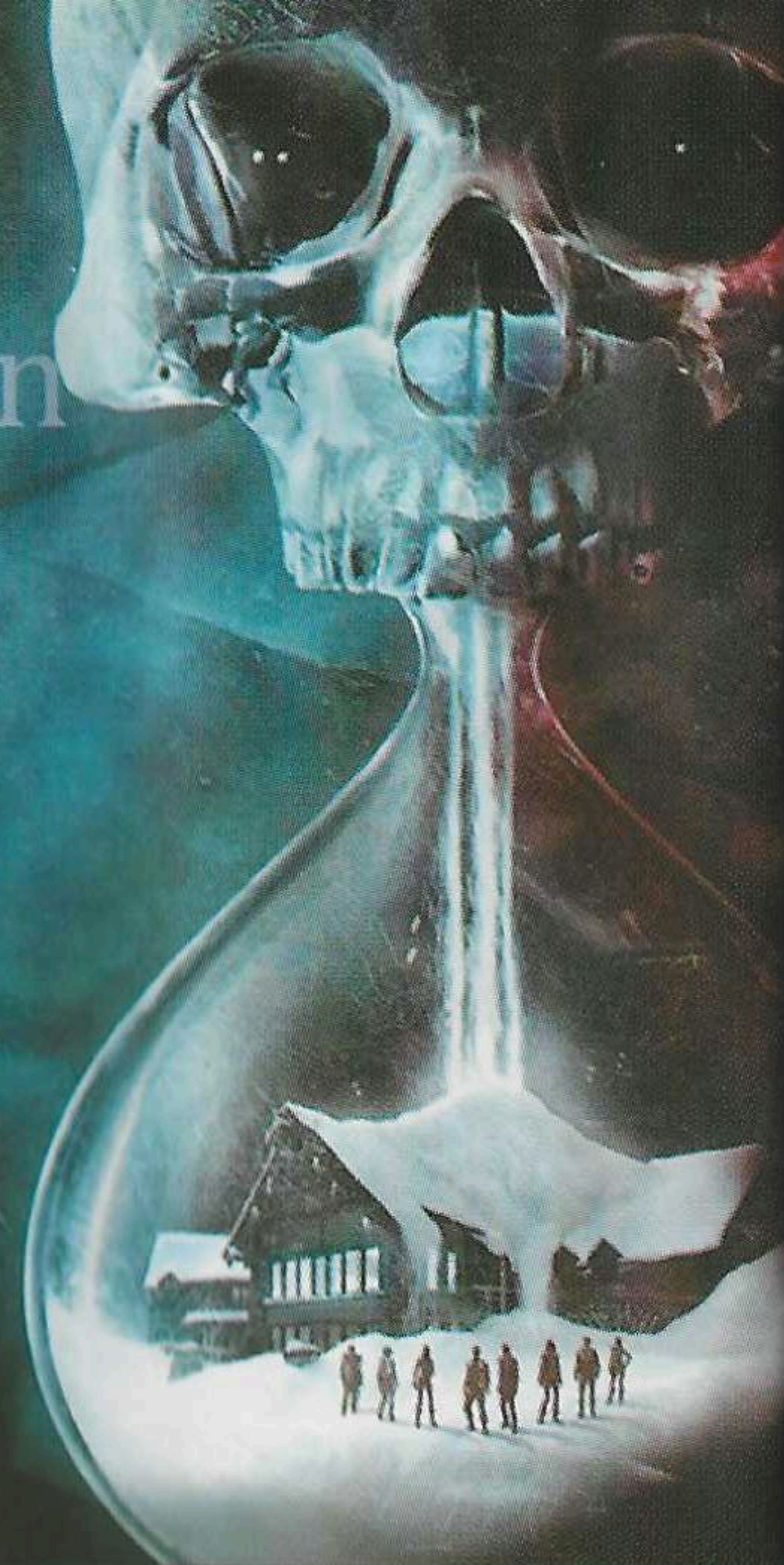
Until then, look forward for Creepy Cute's future works that may come out in Steam via Sekai Project.



# Nightmare in Blackwood Mountain

## UNTIL DAWN™

Seven teenagers: Mike, Sam, Ashley, Emily, Matt, Jessica, and Chris find themselves returning to Blackwood Mountain for another winter getaway hosted by their mutual friend, Josh Washington.



## GAMEPLAY

Until Dawn strongly emphasizes the in-game system called the "Butterfly Effect", meaning that any choice of action by the player may cause unexpected consequences later on. The very same system blurs the line between right and wrong decisions the player has to make during situations that will test their morality. A strict auto-save system is also imposed in order to prevent the player from reloading to an earlier point if ever they regret their in-game decision that caused a character to suffer a horrible death.

The main gameplay is focused on exploration, quick-time events, searching for clues and decision-making. There is an in-game system that helps the player keep track of the clues and secrets they've found so far. However, if the player wishes to piece together the mysteries surrounding Blackwood, they must finish the game more than once to collect the clues they've missed on their previous playthrough.

## REVIEW

Playing Until Dawn is like watching a Netflix show except that you, as the player, determines a character's chances of survival in the series based on how good or bad your decision-making is. Since this game heavily implies that every decision will have an unknown effect later on, the player must think very carefully with the action they're about to make. Bad news though, Until Dawn won't give the player that kind of luxury most of the time.

As expected from a PS4-exclusive game, the graphics look so real that you can hardly tell if the whole game was filmed in a real location or digitally made from scratch. Supermassive Games also casts real-life actors and actresses as the characters of Until Dawn. Combining those two, it's not weird to compare this game to a TV show, considering that Until Dawn clearly presents

itself as one. Until Dawn is probably one of the greatest games developed for the PlayStation 4 to date, but even with the praises it received, the game also has flaws that need to be pointed out.

The story, for example, feels like a generic slasher flick with all the horror tropes making an appearance. You'll know that it starts to get bizarre when the plot twist is even worse than the initial plot of the game. And then we have the jump scares, undeniably one of the most important elements in horror films and video games, but having more of that in the game makes it a cheap way to startle the player. On the graphical side, the visuals and camera angles can be wonky at times.

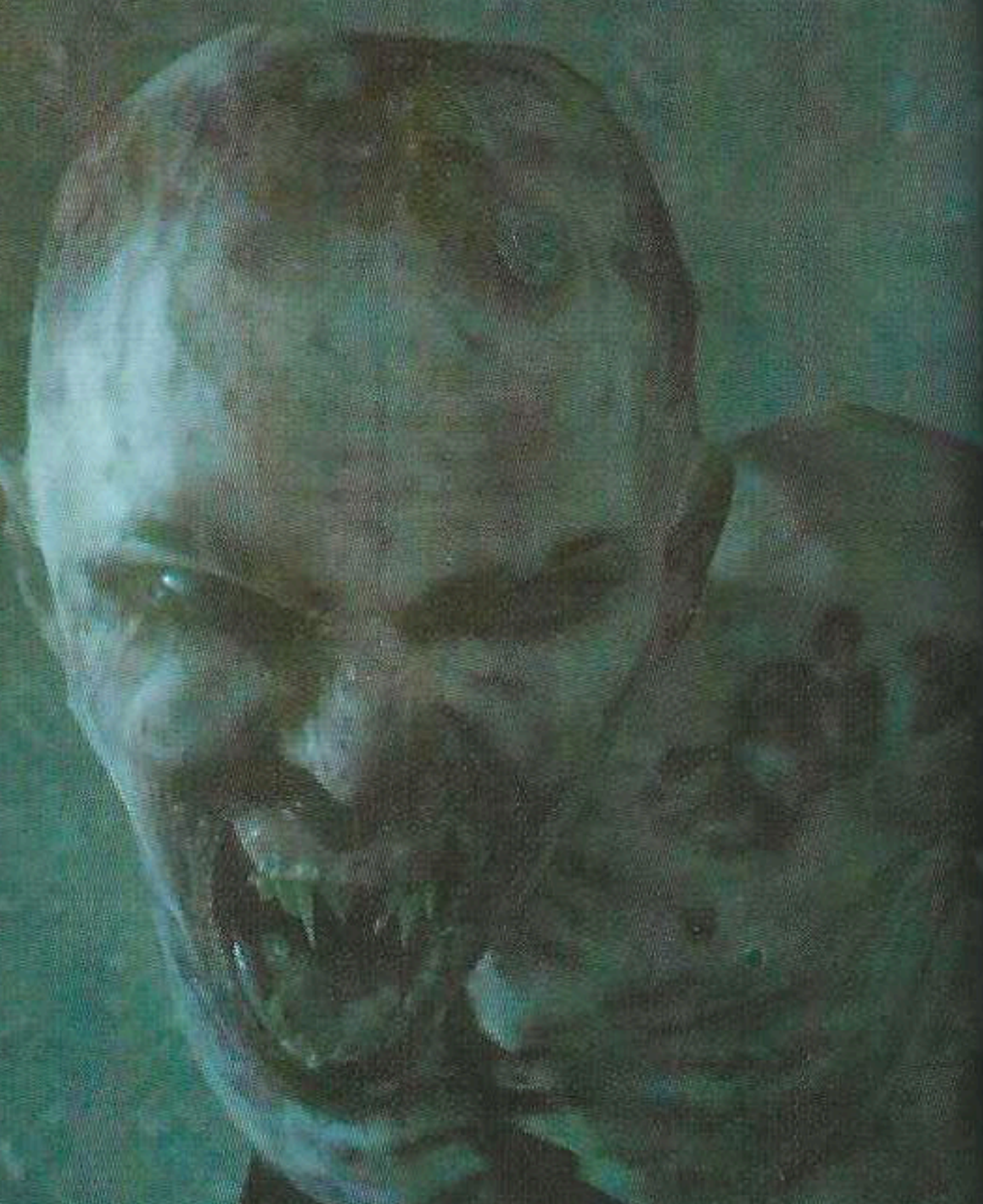
If you happen to own a PS4 and currently need games to be added in your library, then you might as well check out Until Dawn. It might not be as good as Heavy Rain and Beyond: Two Souls in terms of story, but the game shows promise in giving its players a thrilling narrative horror game experience of your life.



The teenagers don't have any fond memories of the place as it was the site where Josh's sisters disappeared after a prank that went horribly wrong a year ago. Even so, they still accepted Josh's invitation both as an act of consideration for his goodwill and a way to help him come into terms with his loss.

Unfortunately for them, their winter getaway this time will be even more traumatic than last year as the mountain is full of dangerous elements on the prowl for prey during the dead of the night. Will these kids be able to escape the horrors of Blackwood Mountain... until dawn?

Until Dawn is a PlayStation 4-exclusive interactive survival horror game developed by Supermassive Games and published by Sony Computer Entertainment. The game was released worldwide on August 2015.





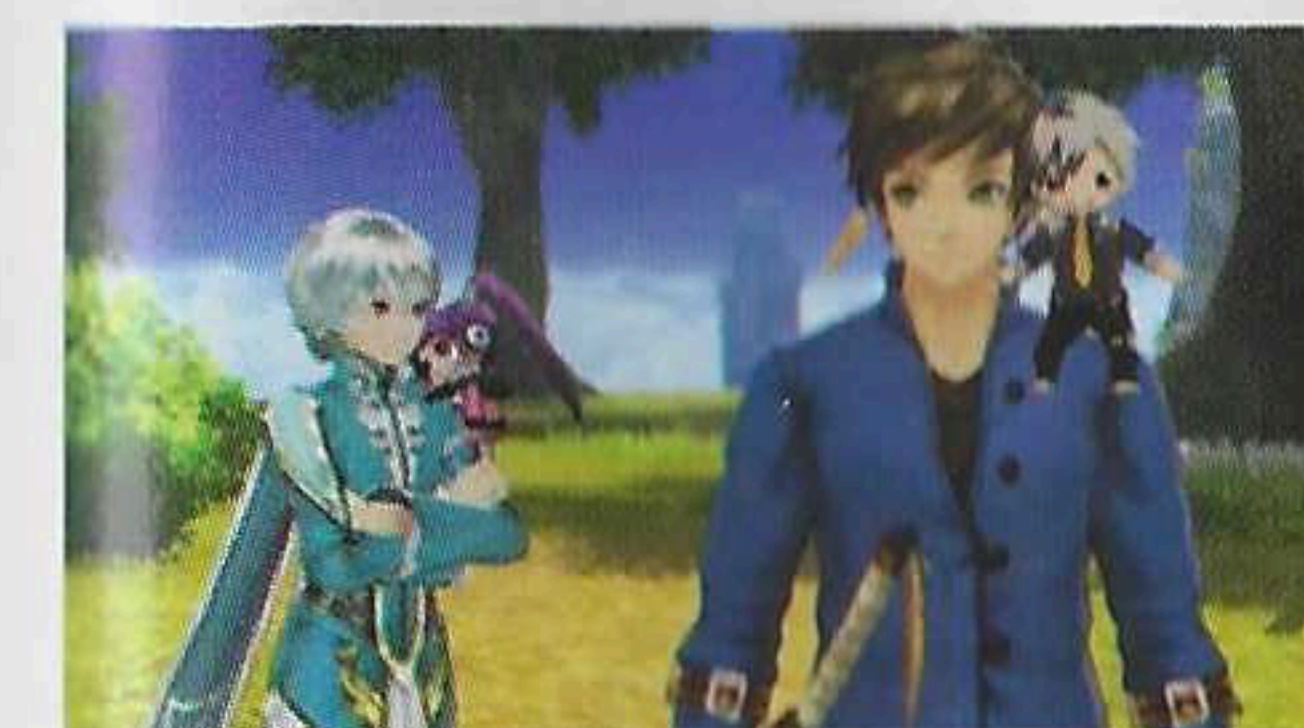
**Platform:** PS3, PS4 and PC  
**Developer:** Bandai Namco Studios and tri-Crescendo  
**Publisher:** Bandai Namco Entertainment  
**Release:** 2015

# Tales of Zestiria

**Tales of Zestiria** is an action role-playing game set in a fantasy world by **Bandai Namco** which was released for the PS3, Ps4 and Microsoft Windows PC. Zestiria is the fifteenth title release of the Tales franchise. The game's development began back in 2011 and was later revealed in 2013 as the 20th anniversary release of the series since Tales of Phantasia.

This time around, the games themes is **RPG of Passion Lighting the World** which means that the story is focused upon the passion the different characters in the game.

The gameplay is similar as with previous Tales titles which used action-based linear motion battle system and open world navigation. The game also features execution of special commands during exploration where the action depends on each character.



There are quite a number of downloadable content and pre-order bonuses available for the game. One of the most notable of them are crossover costumes with other famous titles such as **Evangelion**, **Idolmaster** and **Blue Exorcist** where the characters dons the outfits from the said titles. Zestiria's theme song is entitled **White Light** and is performed by **Superfly**.

The game received multitudes of positive review from fans world wide through various media such as gaming magazines, blogs and other social sites. Though the story received mixed response, the battle system was highly praised and was deemed fitting as the latest and most advanced Tales game so far.

An anime film with the title of **Tales of Zestiria: Dawn of the Shepherd** was released in order to promote the game which was produced by **Ufotable** that covers the opening part of the game before Sorey embarked on his journey. A TV series was also announced which will also be animated by Ufotable and is scheduled to premiere in Spring 2016.

## Playable Characters



### Sorey

Sorey is a human raised by the Seraphim and is the main protagonist of the game. He possesses high level resonance which allows him to see and communicate with the Seraphim. Clad with a positive attitude and kind nature, Sorey also wields a one-handed sword in battle that is capable of Armatization.



### Rose

Rose is a daughter of a human merchant who later joins Sorey's party and became his Squire. Though she had high resonance as a child, an incident robbed her abilities to see Seraphim until she met Sorey. Rose wields dual daggers which is also capable of Armatization.



**Mikleo** is a Seraph of Water who wields a long staff. He is Sorey's childhood friend who worries constantly for the young troublemaker.



**Edna** is a Seraph of Earth who wields a parasol in combat. She is the most petite member of the party and also shows the most hatred towards humans.



**Lailah** is a Seraph with the element of Fire. She forms a contract with Sorey and decided to guide him in order to become the legendary Shepherd.



**Dezel** is a wind-based outlaw Seraph equipped with whip-like pendulums. He lived amongst humans while plotting his revenge against the Hellions.



**NAME**  
Laharl



**HP** 1  
**SP** 322  
**ATK** 309  
**DEF** 321  
**EXP** 1432968400  
**NEXT**

**Demon Prince**

1372  
20  
30888/30888  
31570  
31545  
30926  
2091650

**Char**

Laharl  
Etna  
Flonne  
Gordon  
Jennifer  
Thursday  
Strawberry  
Pucelle



# out with the old in with the new

By Kanddy

I particularly remember sneaking in my DS to school because I could not defeat the boss at home. I got so sad when Atlus moved on from the original characters. Blame NIS who kept using the Prinny in their newsletters. Good news is that just like Laharl, IT HAS AWOKEN.

November 2015, it was announced that Disgaea PC is headed to Steam. The title will feature updated UI and textures, support for both keyboard/mouse and controller inputs, and will make use of Steam features, such as achievements, cloud saves, badges, and trading cards. Horay for original story but they spoiled that the game will include content from Disgaea: Afternoon of Darkness.

What we noticed is that they kept the sprites... well, upscaled so expect it to be blurry. They are changing some elements of the UI and rumor has it that choosing between the old and new is available \*choose the old one ahem\*

I thoughroughly enjoyed the original game and I pray that if you did not get to enjoy this, you will now be able to. There was no price yet as I am writing this but it should be worth the buck.

Have fun and be nice to the PRINNIES!!!!

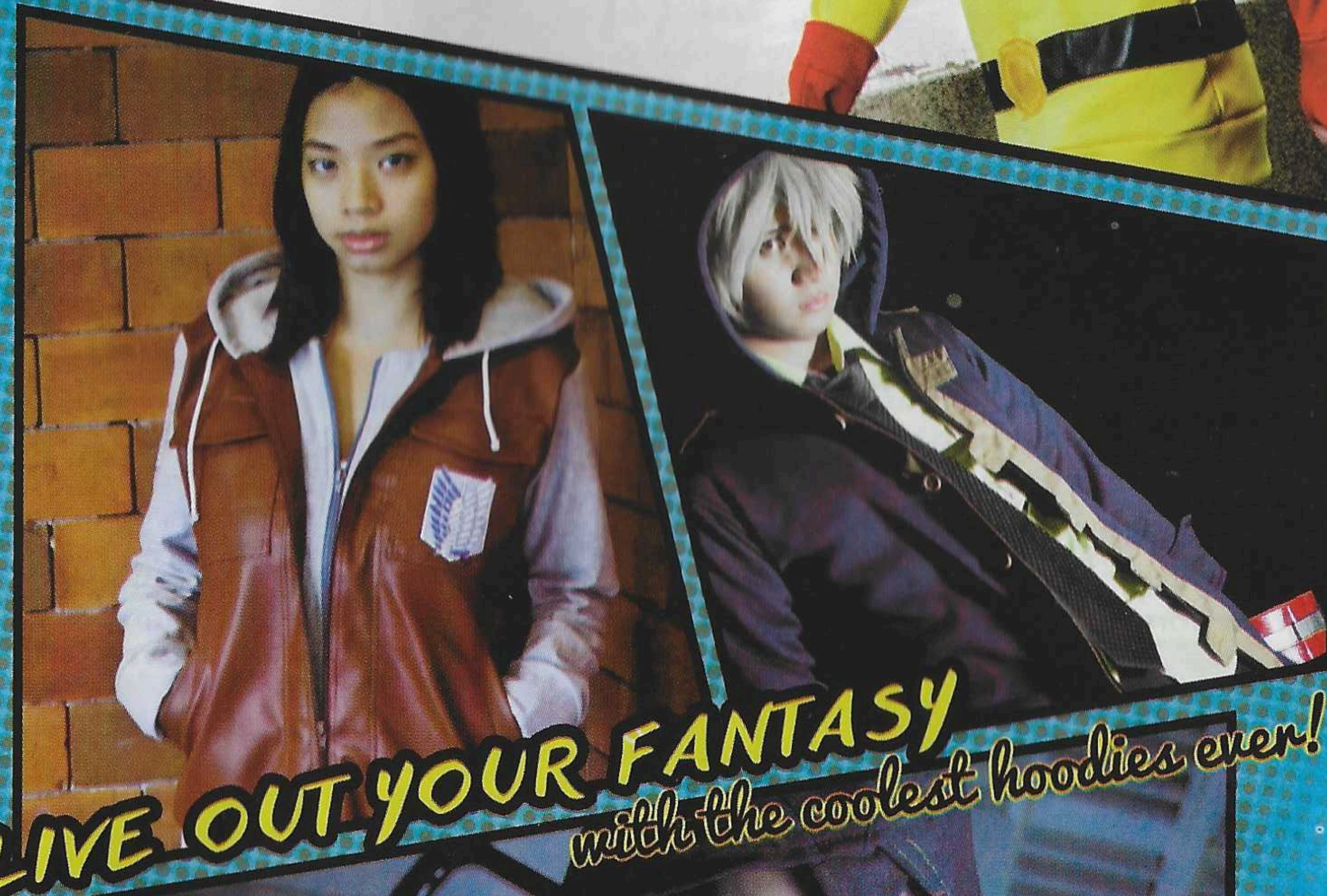


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**LIVE OUT YOUR FANTASY**  
*with the coolest hoodies ever!*







by James

## I Love Mascots! No, Seriously KIGURUMI BOUEITAI

Another invasion plot, big deal. Go call whatever and whoever needs to be summoned and have the planet saved either from being enslaved or destroyed. Superheroes, teens from a magical high school, giant robots, or mascots, take your pick. Yes, you read that right – mascots! Chubby, fluffy, and furry suits with stubby legs. Except these ones only look like mascots but aren't really anything of the sort, and instead are actually strange and cuddly creatures that know how to fight inter-dimensional threats. Get to know Earth's mighty defenders in Kigurumi Boueitai.

The title, which means **Mascot Guardians** in English, couldn't be more apt, as it is about three mascot-like beings – the cow-like **Ginger**, the lion-like **Basilico**, and the eagle-like **Fennel** – who protect the Earth from the **Puppet Guild**, a mysterious organization from an equally mysterious parallel dimension. Each of them is assigned with a student, and the one assigned to **Ginger**, our lead kigurumi, is Hakka Sasakura, a girl who's a bit of a tsundere towards her designated Guardian. And the secret of the kigurumi? A kiss turns them to their true selves – slick young men. With that development, it's a lot less likely that the job of the kigurumi would solely be warding off evil off the planet.

If you're looking for a battle manga with a creative twist and doesn't fall short on the romance department, then you're sure to embrace Kigurumi Boueitai.



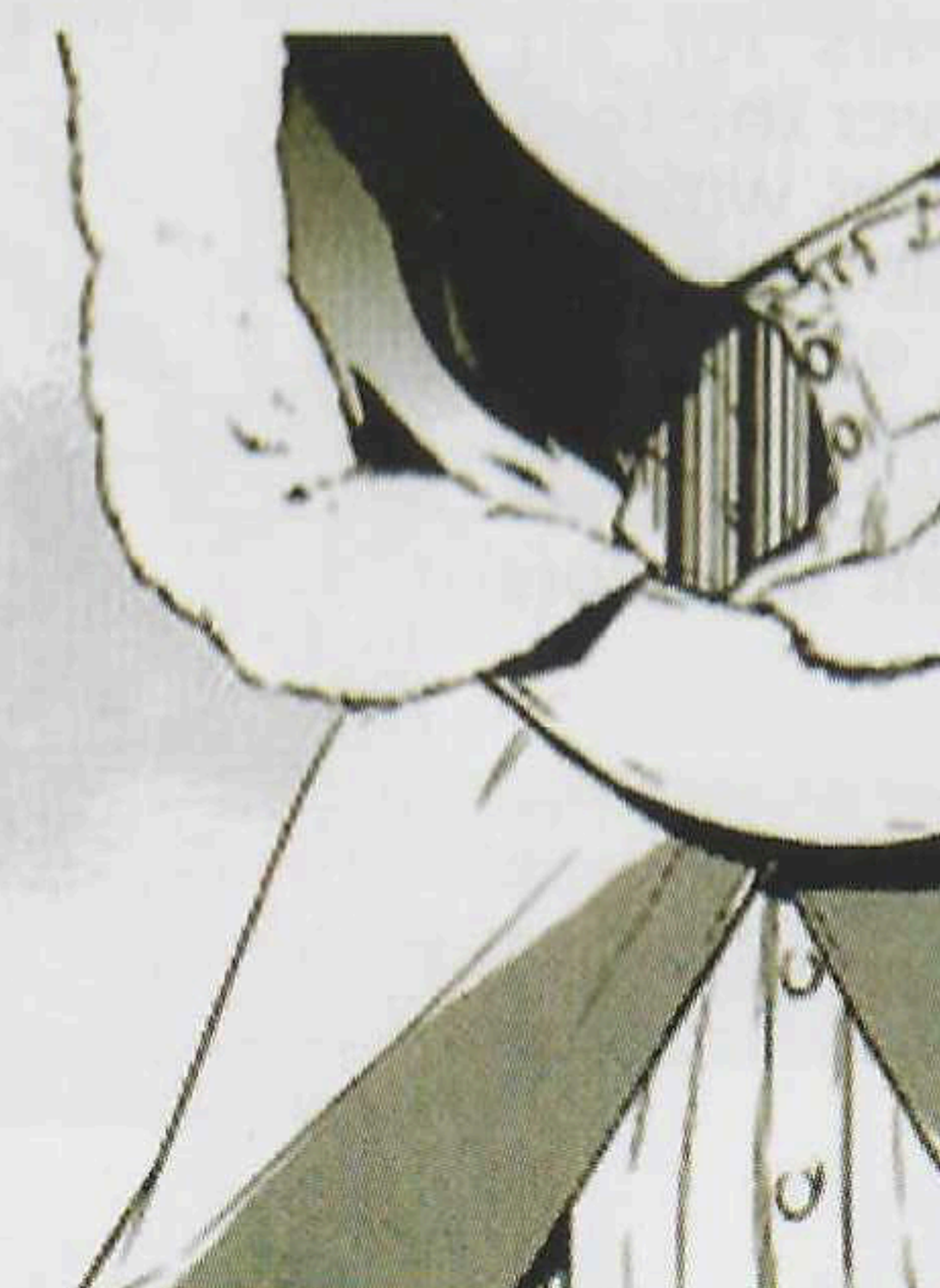
by James

## From Ordinary Boy to Princess!? SHOUNEN OUJO

It's embarrassing for a boy to dress up like a girl, so imagine just what a boy feels like when he's forced to look like a princess. But what if he lives in a society that is ruled by women and looks down on men? And under those circumstances, what things would happen to him and run in his mind if he were to fill the clothes and shoes of the heir to the throne? That is what Shounen Ojou is all about.

The manga is the tale of **Albert**, a boy with no parents, who got abducted by slave traders and was then bought by **Guy Schwarzwald**, the personal attendant of **Princess Alexia Lumiere**, the heir to the throne of the **Queendom of Morrigan**, a land where women hold power and men have no choice but to obey them. Albert, because he wants to protect his friend **Theo**, who got hurt because he first refused, agreed to the deal. But what Albert doesn't know that pretending to be royalty is a treacherous game of dress-up, as what he has gotten into is more than just about enjoying luxuries and graces, he has to navigate a landscape full of lies, secrets, and betrayal.

You'll love this manga if you are into a deep and complex story told in a beautiful and dramatic art style – nothing less from author **Zenko Musashiro** and artist **Yukihiro Utako**, who is the one behind the tie-in manga of *Uta no Prince-sama*.







by Ann

## Love versus Pride LAST GAME

A fight for victory is a noble act to settle disagreements, but in Yanagi Naoto, the real battle plan is one that is an unknown territory for Kujou Mikoto: romance!

Yanagi is the prince of his world beginning from primary school, being the best in the academic and sports field, but his world slowly crumbles as Kujou transfers and beats him every single time. Desperate to get his honor back, high school Yanagi decides that he will make Kujou fall in love with him only to dump her and make her feel really bad. However, it seems that breaking through her walls of insensitivity (and so much focus on helping her mom) might be a really, really tough job!

Last Game is a comedy-drama shoujo manga written by Amano Shinobu from 2011. It is currently on to its 10th volume, but fans all over the world are raving about what's going to happen next in the roller coaster adventure of Yanagi and Kujou.

While Yanagi has it all with his wealth, looks, brain, and popularity, Kujou comes along to rain on his parade with her strong determination on account of being raised by a poor single-parent family. Ten years for an overbearing grudge might sound over the top, but things get exciting as the readers witness the way that Yanagi's actions backfires on him as he becomes more conscious of himself around Kujou. What makes the manga more interesting is the addition of characters that further spices up the already difficult situation that they are in.

Take a peek into this quirky couple who spells lovebound sooner or maybe a bit later than we would expect. Catch up with Last Game!



by Ann

## The Real Me Inside Her SORA WO KAKERU YODAKA

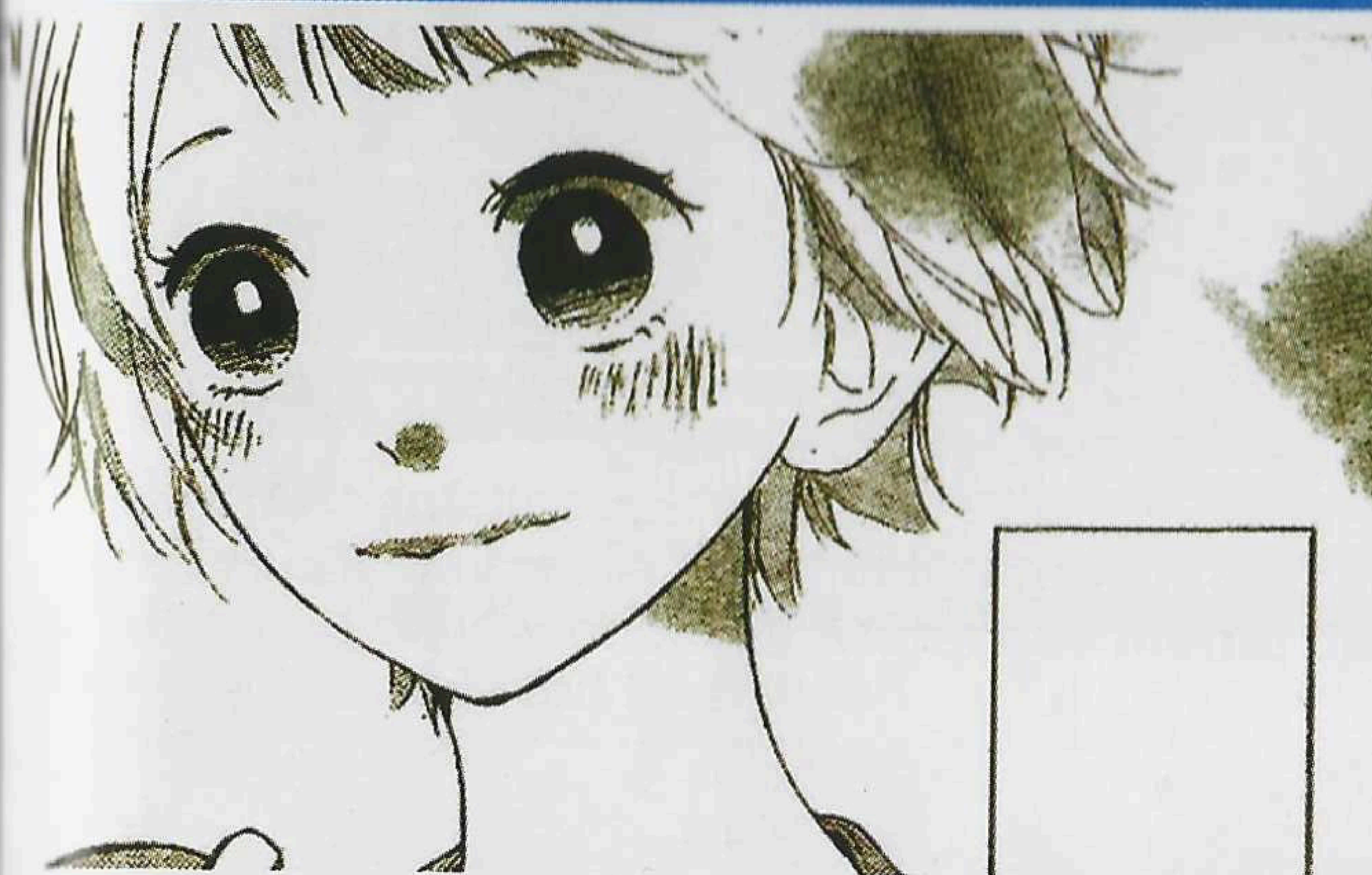
"To be beautiful with a heart" as noted by Miss Universe 2015 Pia Wurtzbach is a statement that rings true for every person, and with this idea do we come to love others. While we can all agree with the ideal of beauty being beyond skin deep and being about attitude, most media might tell us otherwise. Sora wo Kakeru Yodaka recaptures this idea with a twist!

Kawabata Shiki created Sora wo Kakeru Yodaka back in 2014, which continues to release chapters. While the high school drama manga uses body switching as part of its tools to keep the story going, but manga readers can expect that the turn of events would keep them turning from one page to the next.

True to her name, Kohinata Ayumi is a walking beauty in her class, but she does not realize this until Umine Zenko switches their bodies and replaces Ayumi in her seemingly perfect high school life. As Umine, Ayumi struggles to make people believe what happened to her, but a true friend sees through the chubby and considered "fugly" exterior and identifies her. With only 200 days left before their cells completely change, Ayumi and her friend, Kaga, must break through the messy game that the real Umine created from her envy.

This promising manga not only has a good story to tell but also effectively uses flashback to help readers patch up the details. In addition, facing tough decisions adds depth to the characters and how far they'll go to get what they want.

How did they switch bodies in the first place? Will Ayumi ever get her body back? How can they live their lives after what happened? Find all these out through Ayumi's eyes, and who knows? Maybe she'll find out more than just Umine like a real friend or true love.







## Let us be friends!! SEISHUN NOTE by Kanddy

Transferring schools is hard. In the middle of your studies, you have to adapt and change all over again. Making friends and connections become hard as others would have already made their groups and cliques.

Yoshida Hime has transferred schools almost every year because of her father's work. Despite not being able to gain meaningful relationships and friends in such a short period, she still looks optimistic for the future. She meets Hashimoto Uruka and Oumi in this new school.

Seishun Note is a new manga by Ayase Umi who wrote Vivid Cherry and Haru. The manga is currently being published by Shueisha in Bessatsu Margaret.



綾瀬羽美



Seishun Note is a manga of an awkward female lead finding her way around the thing called friendship. Maybe it could show a thing or two about how to properly treat your friends

# E2046 GK Contest 2016

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- \* Prizes will be credited as Cash Coupons and are not refundable
- \* All prizes will be released within one month upon results announcement
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**HOT ANIME**

# GATE

自衛隊 彼の地にて、斯く戦えり



## Myth and Reality Cross Once Again

article by: Robert Lim

August, year 20XX was the day when the portal to another world opened in Ginza known as "The Ginza Incident" when ancient armies and monsters poured out of the gate. The Japanese government assigned the Third Reconnaissance Team, led by First Lieutenant Itami Youji to explore the mysteries that lie beyond the gate, which includes elves, proud civilizations, and fire-breathing dragons. After tangling with the politics and befriending some residents of the other world, the team return to Japan to much fanfare. It was not long before they went through the gate once more with peace negotiations on hand, but not after dealing with several political opponents from various nations.

Now, what awaits the team beyond the gate is more than just a simple peace talk with the kingdoms of that world. An old foe, the fire dragon, is on the move once more, and it now threatens another tribe, one belonging to the dark elf Yao Ha Dusi. After successfully driving off the creature once, it is now time for them to settle the score with this dangerous beast once and for all. Now begins the second chapter of the story that you've all been waiting for!

The second series continues to adapt Takumi Yanai's military fiction, which is still ongoing and has 10 volumes to date. The first season of Gate, which aired mid-2016 ended in a rather inconclusive manner which set up for this sequel.

There's a lot to like about the Gate anime. The first one you would probably notice is the action hero who a lot of us can relate to so much due to similar interests, plus a colorful core cast of characters who all make sure that there's never a dull moment in this show. Another is a more realistic take on magic vs technology scenario. Where else can you see a unit such as the JSDF make their mark in battle against mythical creatures from the great beyond? This all comes with the masterful character designs, visuals, and music, all courtesy of A-1 Pictures and Kishida Kyoudan. The sequel promises to bring all of that back, and then more. Why wouldn't we all be excited for this?

Gate: Thus the JSDF Fought There makes its grand return on January 2016. Make sure to tune in to the next chapter of this epic fantasy saga.

## CHARACTERS:



### Itami Youji

Cool, daring, and in touch with otaku interests. Itami is the leader of the Third Reconnaissance Team sent to investigate the world beyond the gate. He is a very capable soldier in his own right... although he would rather hunt for the latest magical girl doujins than flaunt his military achievements. Don't let that fool you, this is one soldier with a heart of gold.



### Lelei La Lalena

Blue hair, talented, and lacking in the emotion department... Does that sound familiar? This human sorceress is one of the key residents of the world beyond the gate that was befriended by the JSDF. Highly intelligent, she easily learned the Japanese language and generally acted as a translator for Itami's squad. Don't underestimate her. The petite mage can pack a punch with her spells.



### Tuka Luna Marceau

Tuka belongs to a different elf species from Yao but faced similar circumstances – both are victims of the fire dragon. After becoming the lone survivor of the dragon's attack, she was rescued by the JSDF. Since then, she has become a valuable ally to the team, one that is skilled with the use of the bow.



### Rory Mercury

Now this is one girl you don't wanna mess with. Apostle of Emroy, the God of Death, Rory the Reaper is the embodiment of death. True to her name, she will slaughter enemies with pleasure, seemingly dancing around in battle with her gothic lolita dress and gigantic halberd. With that being said, she possesses a sense of justice and is in fact very outgoing, easily making friends with Itami and the rest of the JSDF. Despite her status as a priestess, she began showing interest in Itami, often in a flirtatious manner. Who knows what her true intentions are?





## JUDGE YOUR LOGIC

article by: Reikisha

In the year L.C. 922, mankind faces an unprecedented crisis involving majins. After losing the war on the mythical world of Tetraheaven that lasted for 100 years, the majins invaded the human world. In response to the invasion, the government is forced to retaliate by hiring logicalists affiliated with ALCA, a special police force that protects the city from foreigners. These logicalists possess a special power that allows them to enter a trance with Goddesses from the other world.

Enter Tsurugi Yoshichika, a civilian living peacefully with his family. One day, he meets the beautiful Goddess named Athena in the midst of a majin attack. It turns out that she possesses the "logic" that Yoshichika will need to qualify as a logicalist.

In the world of Septpia, all you need is "Luck" and "Logic".

Luck & Logic is an action-fantasy animated TV series based on Bushiroad's newest trading card game. The series is broadcasted every Saturday at 22:30 JST since January 9, 2016.



### ABOUT THE ANIME:

It's a trading card game that pits two players in a duel. Players are able to summon allies known as "members" to the battlefield. Combining logicalists and foreigners by using the power of trance will allow the player to perform trance unions to defeat their opponent and their opposing logic.

### CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Fumiko Orikasa as Artemis  
Inori Minase as Mana Asuha  
Sumire Uesaka as Athena  
Sora Tokui as Chloe Maxwell

Kensho Ono as Yoshichika Tsurugi  
Chiaki Omigawa as Valkyrie  
Nao Fuyama as Venus  
Risa Taneda as Tamaki Yurine



# Divine Gate

ディバインゲート



聖なる扉  
ディバインゲート



## Where the Worlds Meet

article by: Lizac 3.0

The Divine Gate exists as a portal which makes it possible for the heaven and hell to meet. However, when the Divine Gate was opened, curiosity ends and the answer is revealed. It brought devastation to the living world because of the differences among the beings of heaven, hell, and the world in between. This calls for a formation of a group called The World Council to maintain peace and order. Since then, the Divine Gate has become a mere old person's tale and an urban legend, but only for those who do not deserve it. The World Council chooses people who are worthy to enter the Divine Gate for their own personal reasons. Those who could reach the Divine Gate could have the power to remake the world.

**Divine Gate** is an on-going 2016 winter anime produced under the Studio Pierrot. Divine Gate is originally a smartphone game developed by GungHo Online Entertainment and Acquire in 2013. It is a free downloadable game for iOS and Android users. The game enables its users to go on adventures, treasure-hunting, and monster-killing sprees. Different monsters and creatures are found in the game as the player goes along the way, especially in the RPG mode. It also has more than 1,000 unique game characters, which makes players avoid the boredom induced by repetitive character designs. In the anime, only a few notable characters were included such as Akane, Aoto, Midori, Yukari, and others who could manipulate elements at their will.

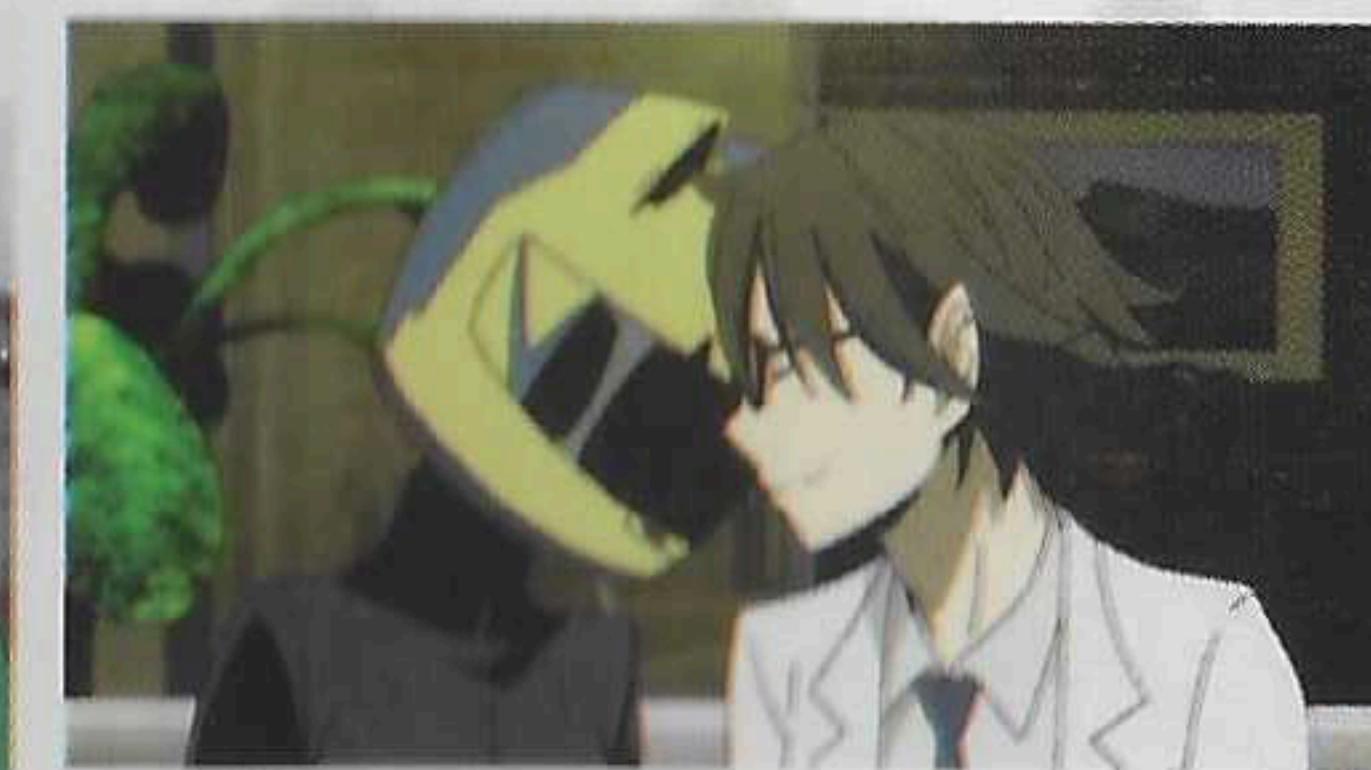
The world of the living is struggling with the mysterious concept of heaven and hell. The Divine Gate is the only solution to this never-ending question. Will peace be maintained until the end? Prepare to enter the portal as the Divine Gate lets you in to its secrets.







## Back to IKEBUKURO



The normal days seem to go on for so long at it seems, but to the streets of Ikebukuro, the peaceful days will be disrupted.

Peace once again invaded the city of Ikebukuro after the events half a year ago. The students are back to enjoying their days of youth while the strongest man of the city works diligently. Though these normal days seems to end as an informant plots a new scheme while the headless rider is being pursued by cops while she rides the night.

**Durarara!! x2** is the second season of the popular series, **Durarara!!**. The main staff from the first season will return although it will be produced at studio Shuka instead of Brain's Base. The series will air on 3 cours (quarters) a year. The first cour, entitled "**Sho**" (meaning "understanding") aired back in January 2015 and the second cour, "**Ten**" (meaning "motion") aired back in July 2015. The third cour, "**Ketsu**" (meaning "conclusion") will begin this January 2016. You can catch it through streaming websites such as Crunchyroll and Hulu.

There were a lot of characters introduced back in season one, and in this season, expect a whole lot more of characters to know. Aside from this, expect plot twists that will surely promise you great things in the upcoming cour. The animation may be not that great but rest assured that Durarara will still continue to bring you entertainment!



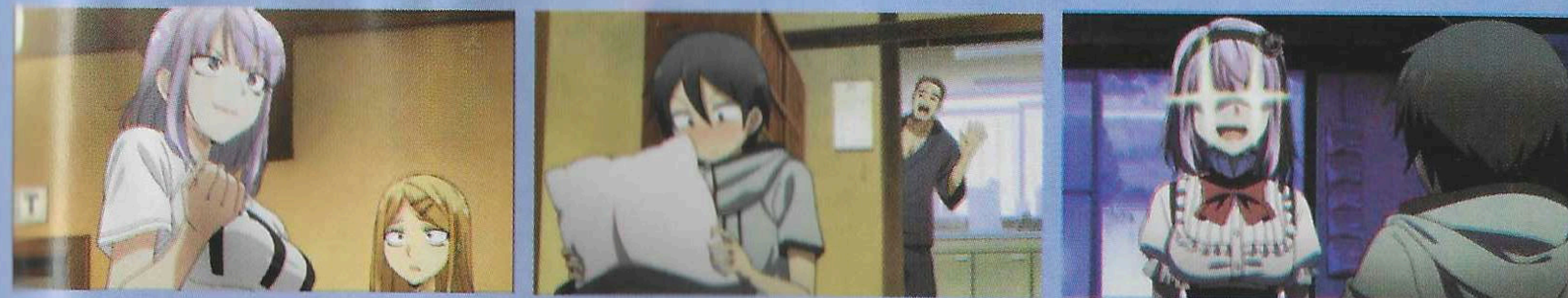




## Dagashi Kashi

## Candies, Coconuts and Fireflies

by Mikelle Abubo



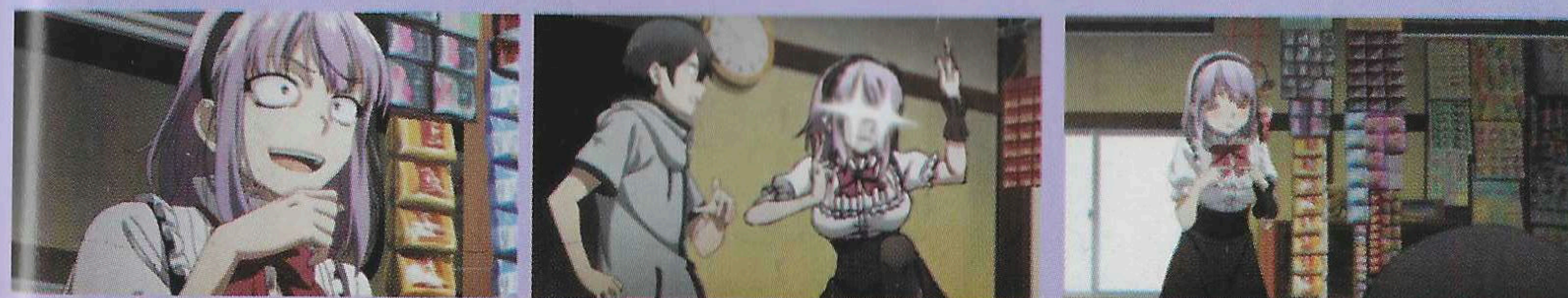
Have you ever pondered or reminisced about those tasty treats that you've purchased from the local candy store when you were young? Remember the days when you would save up your allowance no matter how small it is and splurge on your most favorite candy or most desired toy just so you could brag to your friends. Do you feel nostalgic yet? Just sit back, relax and let the odd duo of Kokonotsu and Hotaru take you on a tour filled with nostalgia and sweets.

**Dagashi Kashi** is a shounen anime by studio **Feel** which premiered in the 2016 Winter Season. The anime is adapted from **Kotoyama's** ongoing manga series which is currently being serialized in **Shogakukan's Weekly Shounen Sunday** and has been compiled in three volumes. A light novel adaptation has also begun since December 2015.

The story introduces **Shikada Kokonotsu**, the apparent heir to a local sweets shop, though he strongly refuses to inherit the family business due to the fact that he wants to follow his dream of becoming a mangaka. One eventful summer, their shop was suddenly visited by the cute yet weird **Shidare Hotaru** who happens to be the heir of a famous sweets company. Hotaru was tasked to hire and bring back Kokonotsu's father to which he quickly agreed but on one condition: Hotaru needs to convince Kokonotsu to take over the sweets shop.

Dagashi which literally means sweets; are cheap snacks that are very popular with children. Dagashi were created for the sole purpose of enjoying the snacks while eating them, some being filling while some are quite tricky to consume.

Dagashi Kashi isn't only a light-hearted comedy show but it also hints bits of sweet romance among the characters. Though one shouldn't expect much character development since the anime mainly focuses on the wide variety of sweets which drives Kokonotsu's daily life in a swirl of ridiculousness. Overall Dagashi Kashi is very a enjoyable anime with tons of skits and puns. Adding it to your watch list is definitely a great way to start the year and would leave viewers craving for more.







# Please Tell Me!

by Mikkelle Abubo

Oshiete! Gyaruko-chan or Pleast Tell Me! Galko-chan is an anime from the Winter 2016 Season by Studio Feel. The anime is an adaptation from Kenya Suzuki's manga of the same title which was an original series that he began publishing of Twitter but was later moved to Kadokawa's website. The popular manga has received over a million views online and was then later given an English license in North America by Seven Seas Entertainment.

The story revolves around the comedic daily life of modern gal Gyaruko-chan along with her friends Otako the quiet loner and the frank yet natural Ojyo.

Oshiete! Gyaruko-chan is a light hearted comedy show that displays Gyaruko's innocence despite dressing up as a trendy gal. Her various unnatural reactions and innocent nature surprises even her close friends which is the running gag of the series.

The anime will be directed by Keiichiro Kawaguchi who is also famous for directing other comedic slice-of-life show such as Hayate no Gotoku, Minami-ke and Sket Dance. The anime's theme song is performed by the respective voice actresses for Gyaruko (cv: Azumi Waki), Otako (cv: Miyu Tomita) and Ojyo (cv: Minami Takahashi).



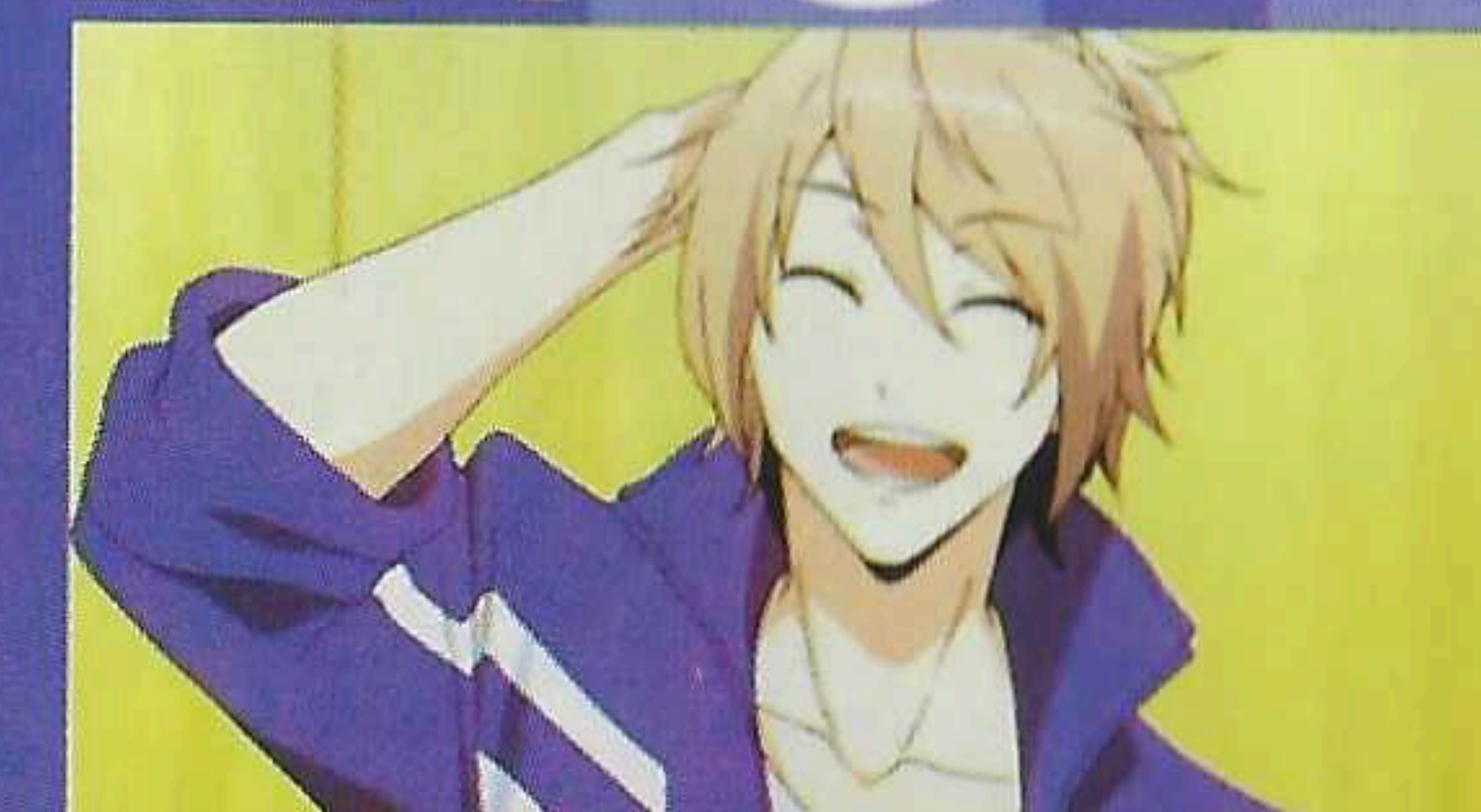




PRINCE OF **STRIDE** プリンスオブストライド BOYS SPRINT TO THE END OF SUMMER  
オルタナティブ **ALTERNATIVE**

by lizac 3.0

# Stride FOR YOUR Life



The sport track and field seems simple at first; it does not make use of any expensive sports facilities, memorization of game rules, and a tool like a shuttlecock or a ball that you have to maneuver. One may think anybody could do it with constant practice and proper training. However, in track and field, you owe everything to your team. **Hounan Senior High Academy** showcases this great need for team spirit with their athletes in the extreme sport Stride.

**Nana Sakurai** (CV: Kana Hanazawa) and **Takeru Fujiwara** (CV: Nobuhiko Okamoto) try to revive the now defunct **Stride club** of Hounan Senior High. They conduct recruitment schemes for six more members into the club, and already, one person by the name of **Riku Yagami** (CV: Ryohel Kumura) has rejected them. With the hopes of participating in the **End of Summer**, the most renowned Stride competition among schools all over Japan, Nana and Takeru simply have a lot of work to do.

**Prince of Stride: Alternative** is originally an extreme sports otome game developed by **Kadokawa Shoten** and **Vridge Inc** released in July 30, 2015. The visual novel exclusive for PS Vita rose to success in a matter of weeks after its release. The anime adaptation was produced by **Madhouse** and started airing last January 2016. A manga spin-off was also released in November 2015 entitled **Prince of Stride: Galaxy Rush**. Announcement after announcement, it is of no surprise at all due to Prince of Stride's popularity. It definitely stirred the interest of many sports anime fans and visual novel fans alike. The all-voice actor cast added to the Stride hype, and reprised their respective roles in the game with the addition of other voice actors.

Included in the hottest and most awaited anime right at the beginning of the year 2016, Prince of Stride: Alternative is worthy looking forward to because of its great storyline, character back stories, and handsome athletes!







**FAIRY TAIL**  
フェアリーテイル  
新章 FAIRY TAIL ZERO

たくさんの初めて!!  
魔法と仲間が導く冒険

## Where It All Began

article by: Robert Lim

From the strongest wizards of justice to the dark lord of the magic world, everyone has a story to tell. These may be stories of past triumph or past losses and grievances. This particular story we're about to see tells of the past through the eyes of one of the most enigmatic characters in Fairy Tail. That's right, it's an origin story of Mavis Vermilion.

Fairy Tail Zero takes us all the way back to X679, long before the Fairy Tail guild's establishment. The story stars Mavis Vermilion in her younger years as a servant for a magic guild called Red Lizard. As a servant, she was not in the best of terms with the guild master's daughter, Zera, but after a disastrous attack from Blue Skull, the two learned to lean on each other for survival. Hidden away on Tenrou Island, both of them would have no more contact with the outside world... Until the arrival of treasure hunters one day.

Led by Yury Dreyar, the group sought Tenrou Island's precious artifact. Mavis refuses to give it up, resulting in a game which determines the possession of the treasure. This fateful encounter is the start of their long story, one that soon leads to the decisive confrontation with Blue Skull and the chance meeting with the dark wizard who heralded death itself.

The anime adaptation of Fairy Tail Zero was announced last November, with the main cast from the original series set to reprise their roles. The manga which it was based off concluded in 13 chapters, finishing its run in a span of one year, from July 2014 to July 2015.

A story of how a little girl and the team of treasure hunters formed Fiore's strongest guild.... This series is a perfect complement for the Fairy Tail series, especially for those interested to see how the origin story of their beloved band of merry wizards. Fans, it's time to mark your calendars, Fairy Tail Zero begins January 2016!

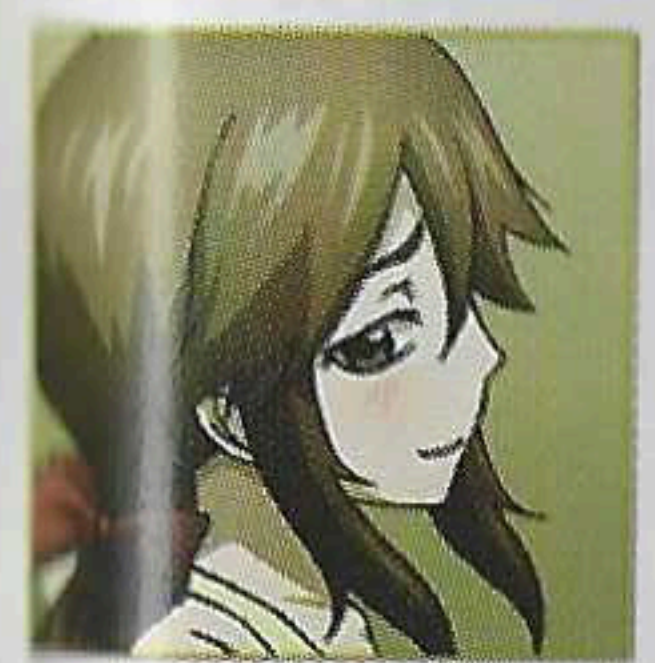


## CHARACTERS:



### Mavis Vermilion

The main character of the series and the eventual first guild master of Fairy Tail. A girl who sought to see the world and dreams of seeing a fairy one day.



### Zera

Daughter of Red Lizard's guild master. She started out with a mean streak towards Mavis, but following the incident which led to the guild's destruction, the two girls began to develop a special friendship. Even after more than seven years, little did Mavis know that she is actually a...



### Yury Dreyar

One of the founding members of Fairy Tail and father of Makarov Dreyar. He arrived in Tenrou Island with his partners, Warrod and Pecht (better known as the eventual Master Hades) in search of a precious treasure. Encountering Mavis, he would challenge her to a game of wits, which turns out to be the catalyst to start their adventures.



### Zeref

Presently known as the strongest and most evil mage, the master of dark arts makes his appearance in this series. In this series, he is introduced as a wizard afflicted by an uncontrollable power that brings death to all that surround him. Despite this, he was approached by Mavis, who took interest in his magical knowledge. That was the beginning of their intertwined fates.





## REQUESTS

# the tiger and the dragon toradora!

requested by:  
Pai

There are instances where you'll have a crush on someone but you're not close enough to that person. Of course we do want to get closer to our crushes, and one of the ways is be closer to your crush's closest friend.

**Ryuuji Takasu's** everyday high school life is surrounded by rumors, about him being an intimidating delinquent due to his looks. His looks however is an opposite of his personality since Ryuuji really is a kind and gentle person. These rumors made him hopeless about not getting a girlfriend anytime soon.

Though everything started to change when he became classmates with his best friend **Yuusaku Kitamura** – and his new found crush, **Minori Kushieda**. However, the happy scenario changed a bit due to him bumping into the most dangerous animal in the school, **Taiga Aisaka**.

**Toradora!** started as a Japanese light novel series by Yuyuko Takemiya with illustrations by Yasu. It received multiple adaptations such as: manga series by Zekkyo, radio shows, visual novel and an anime series that aired between September 2008 to May 2009. The name "Toradora" is from the names of the protagonists Taiga Aisaka and Ryuuji Takasu; Taiga's name sounds like tiger in English while Ryuuji's name means "son of dragon" in Japanese with its transcription of the word dragon becoming "doragon" in Japanese.

Experience laughter along with drama that will surely give an impact to your life through watching Toradora!

by James



For **Shuu Ouma** the world has never been the same. Follow his tale of awakening, insurgency, and love in **Guilty Crown**.

The events of the anime happen in the year 2039 in Tokyo, ten years after the outbreak of the **Apocalypse Virus**, which has caused the Japanese public to plunge into what was almost pandemonium – that is until the government was taken over by the multinational organization **GHO**.

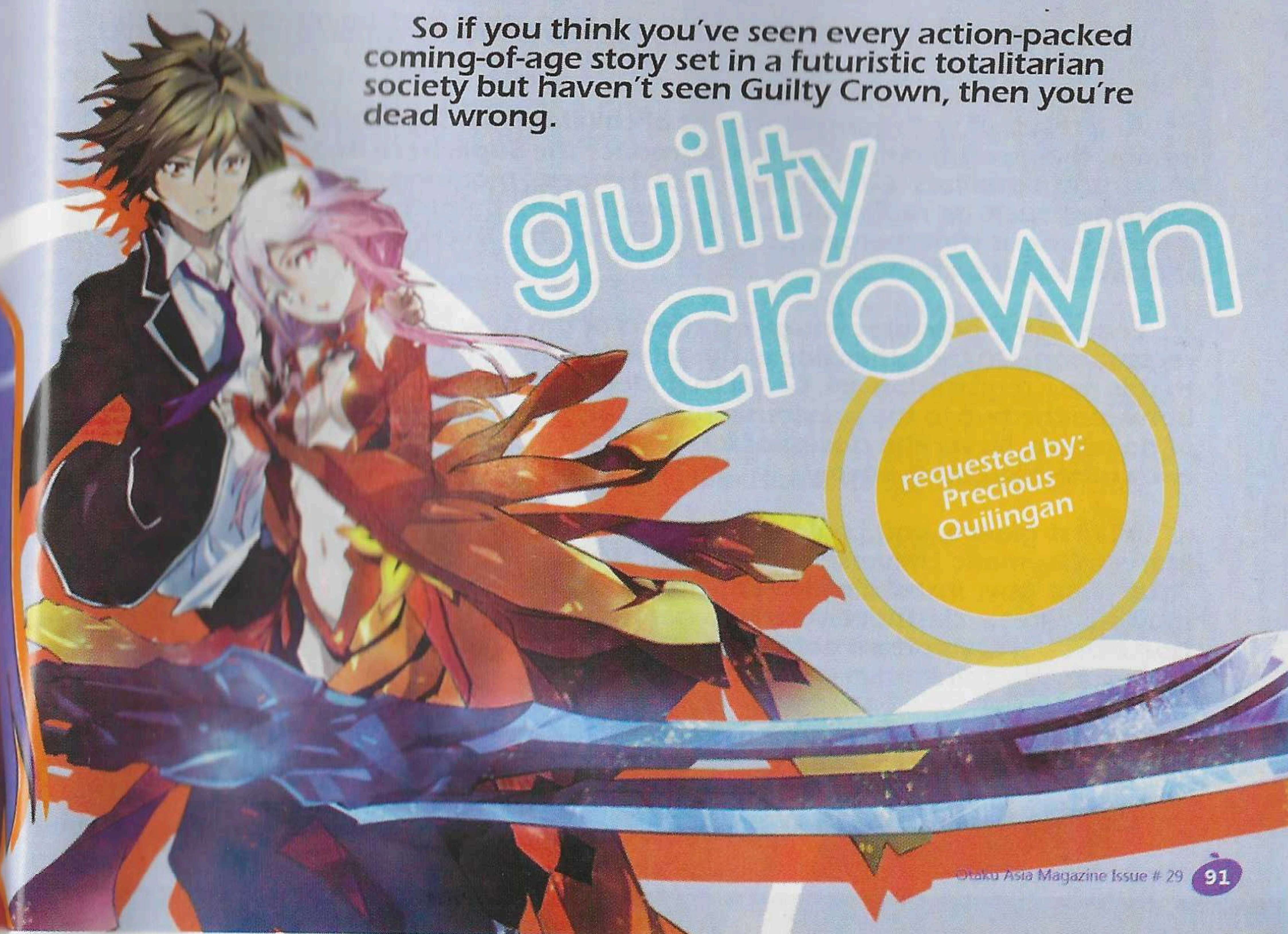
In these chaotic times is **Shuu Ouma**, an ordinary high-schooler who leads a normal, uneventful, yet falsely happy life, which sharply changes when he gets entangled with **Inori Yuzuriha**, the songstress of **EGOIST**. What he doesn't know is that she is a member of the rebel group **Undertaker**, which is poised to end **GHO's** tyrannical rule. And because of his involvement with **Inori**, he becomes an invaluable part of the group and its efforts to topple the oppressive quasi-government. And while this new life does not promise his survival, it stands for what is right and what was missing before – meaning and love.

This 24-episode anime has an interesting dystopian sci-fi setting, simple and interesting plot and characters, and a smooth and beautiful animation style that makes it seem like a recent release – nothing less from **Production IG**.

So if you think you've seen every action-packed coming-of-age story set in a futuristic totalitarian society but haven't seen **Guilty Crown**, then you're dead wrong.

# guilty crown

requested by:  
Precious Quillingan







## Divided We Fall

# MARVEL CAPTAIN AMERICA CIVIL WAR

By robert

The Avengers find themselves in the face of a sudden and abrupt collapse. What could have caused this? No, it is not a supervillain. Need a clue? Well, as the saying goes, "You are your worst enemy."

Yes, the biggest threat to the Avengers now is rooted within their own ranks.

### POSSIBLE SPOILERS AHEAD

As a result of yet another incident of collateral damage caused by superhuman beings, the government decides to introduce the **Superhero Registration Act**. The Act institutionalizes all existing superheroes, requiring them to go through processes such as registration and government training. This polarizes opinion among various superheroes, especially among the Avengers, who split themselves into two major factions.

Fearing the possible controlling effects of this new law, Captain America refuses registration. On the other side of the table is Tony Stark, who serves as a proponent to this new registration act. Given that ideological differences already created a rift between the two in the previous movies, this new law escalates things to the point of no return. Never the closest of friends as Avengers, the two now find themselves each other's greatest enemy.

At first glance, you could already see what makes this next installment of the Marvel Cinematic Universe special. Civil War creates a scenario where there is no "true" bad guy. Instead of introducing a new villain to act as an antagonist, the movie creates a clash between two heroes who both claim to be right. This drives home the very important point that sometimes, maybe the greatest enemy is closer than you may think.

Expect no less than plenty of action scenes, changed allegiances, compelling stories, and two sides that do battle against each other for their own idea of justice.

**Captain America: Civil War opens in theaters May 2016.**



## ICYMI: THERE IS A JAPANESE-FILIPINO DRAMA

Situated in Ichinomiya City, Japan, the drama series chronicles a young Pinoy's adventures as he finds love and gets immersed into a foreign land.

Nippon TV announced on December that the Drama series, **Halo Halo House**—Jose's **Nippon Diary** will broadcast on the Philippines' government television network People's Television Network, Inc. (PTV) beginning January 16, 2016. Nippon TV subsequently partnered with Ichinomiya City in Aichi Prefecture to co-produce the drama.

The drama takes place in Ichinomiya, starring a 22 year old Jose who can't seem to forget a certain Japanese girl whom he met as a kid in Manila. With nothing but three leads on how to find her, he winds up in Japan. He stays in a share house in Ichinomiya, with three other tenants.

The series contains eight episodes, each being thirty minutes long. Unlike traditional dramas, each episode is divided into two parts, the first twenty minutes being the drama itself and the last ten being dedicated to providing detailed explanations on foods, Japanese words and phrases, must-see spots, and other interesting information about Ichinomiya.

The year 2016 marks the 60th anniversary of relations between Japan and the Philippines. This program aims to serve as a bridge that further strengthens the ties between our two countries.



Jose will be played by **Paul Alvin Magsalin**, his first lead role with **Anna Yuzuki** as Erika and **Akihisa Shiono** as Hideto. Filipino-Japanese **Sayaka Akimoto** (former member of idol group AKB48) will also appear in **Halo Halo House** as the show's narrator.

source: [halohalo.ptv.ph/](http://halohalo.ptv.ph/)

The drama will be in Japanese with subtitles but the ten minute information part will be in Tagalog for viewers to understand.

Ichimin asks you to watch it~



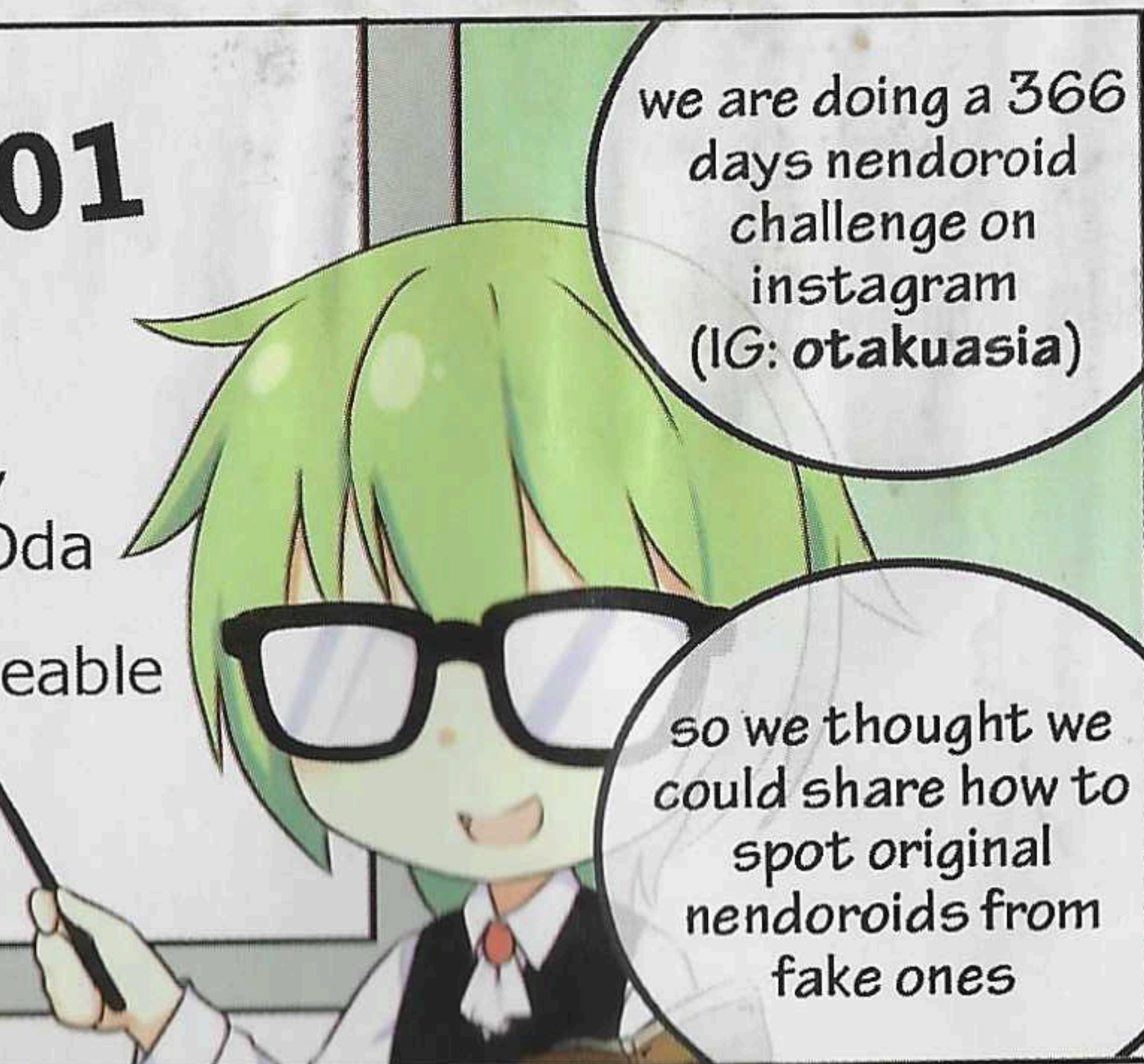




# O-KUN TALES NENDOROID 101

## Nendoroid ねんどろいど

- brand of plastic figures created by Good Smile Company by Tsuyoshi Oda (Oda-P)
- faces and body parts are exchangeable
- painted ABS&PVC non-scale articulated figures
- approx 10 cm in height



we are doing a 366 days nendoroid challenge on instagram (IG: otakuasia)

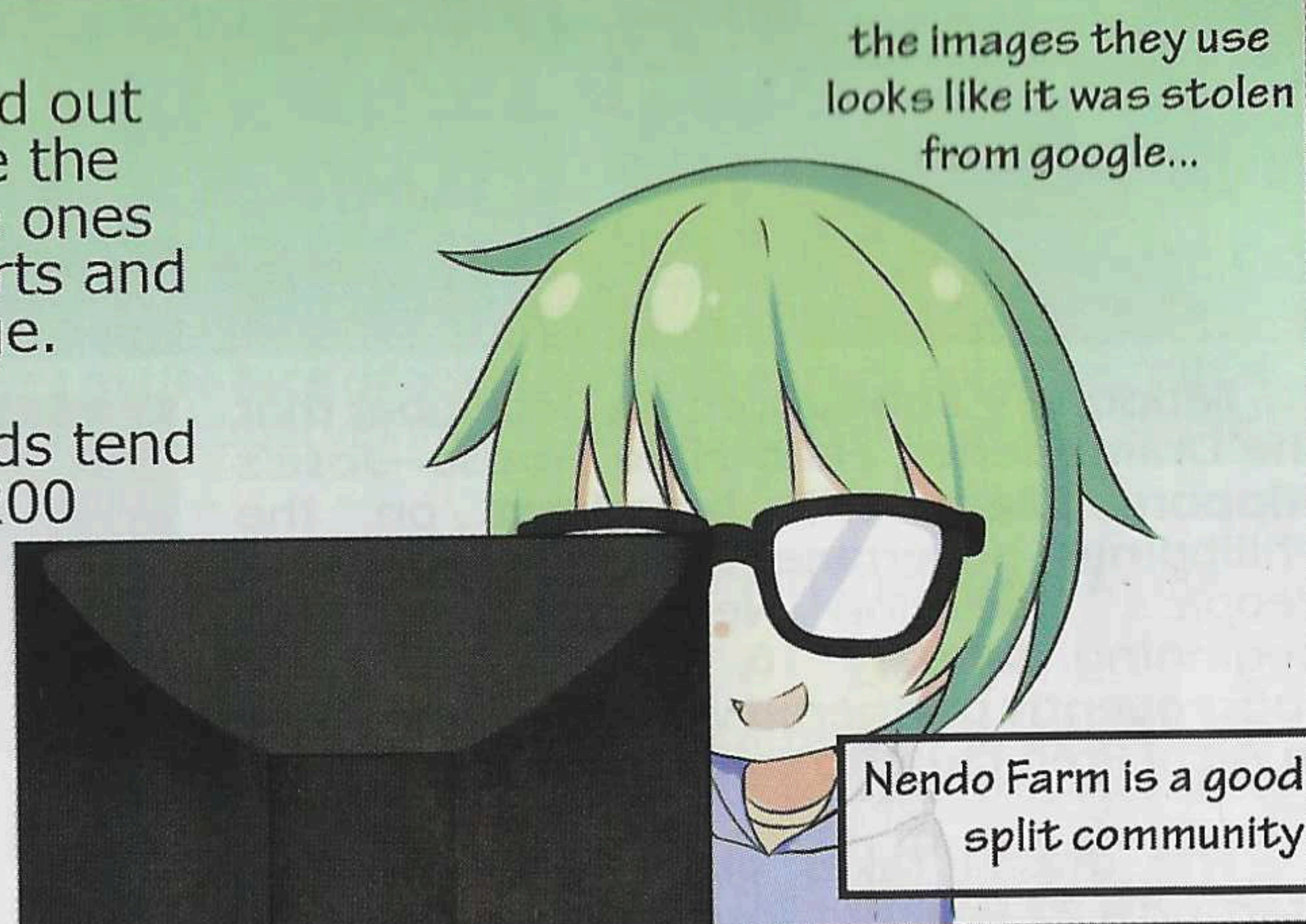
so we thought we could share how to spot original nendoroids from fake ones

## RESEARCH

Know your nendoroid. Find out how it looks like, what are the parts and the colors. Fake ones could have incomplete parts and the color could also change.

Know the price. Nendoroids tend to be around 1,600 to 2,200 pesos.

Read the feedback on the shop you're going to buy from.



the images they use looks like it was stolen from google...

Nendo Farm is a good split community

## PROOF OF AUTHENTICITY

A mere sticker can save you from spending on fake stuff



but not all nendoroids have a brand sticker



paint also tends to be messy in the fake one

## PLASTIC

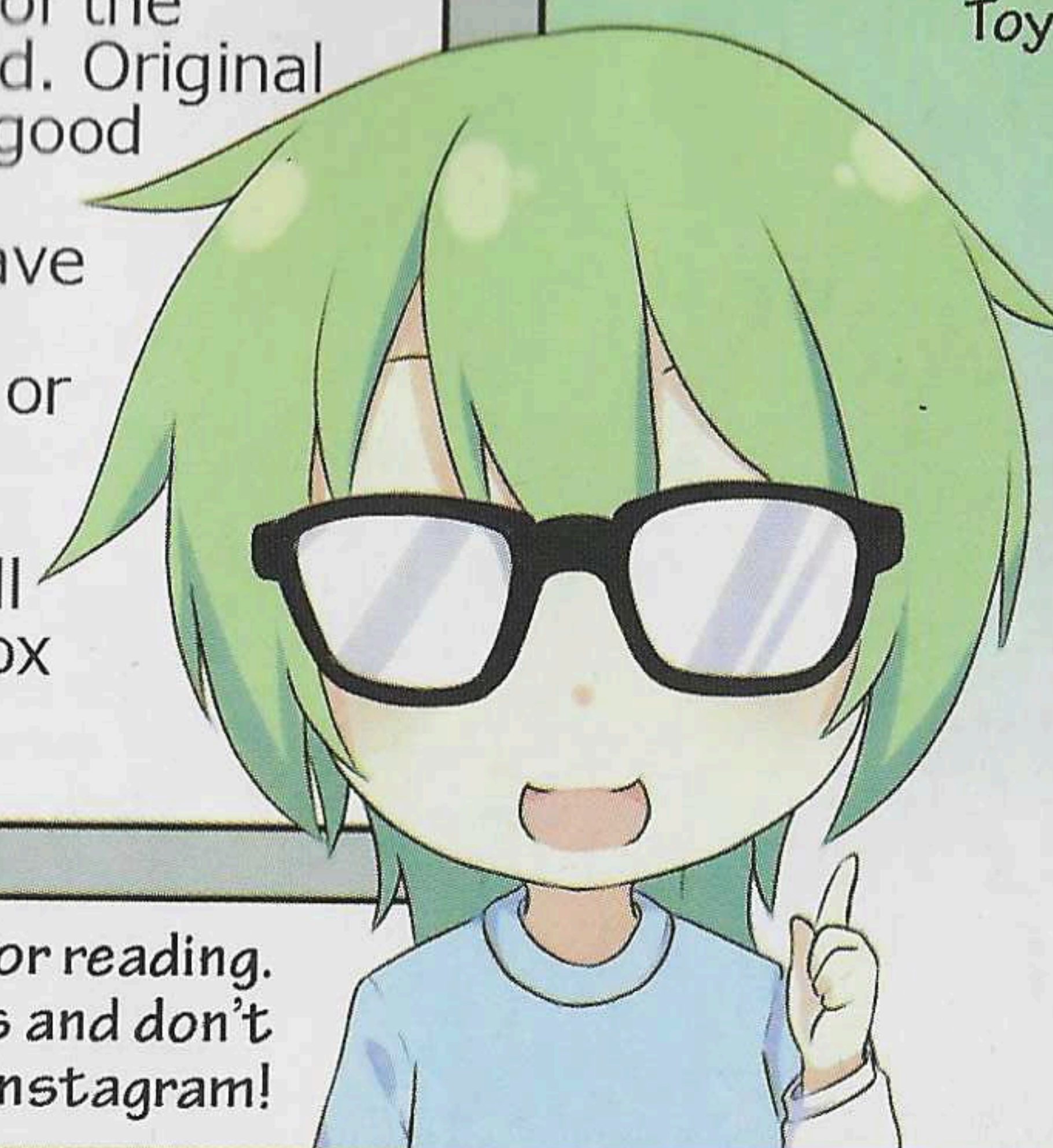
- fake tends to have shiny plastic. original is ABS&PVC

\* images from nyotaku.com

## Other points:

- try to notice the fringe (bangs) of the nendo if the tip is pointy or curved. Original ones will always be sharp and in good mold
- original nendo will also never have tape to hold the parts in the box
- GSC joints will have a GSC logo or smiley face
- a good shop will not sell you a nendo with a damaged box for full price. some collectors keep the box some keep it unopened.

We order from Hubbyte Toy Store



Thank you for reading.  
Have fun with your toys and don't forget to follow us on Instagram!

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# #THROWBACK

## Snow White

In my childhood, there was no "shipping" or "OTP". If you did not like the canon pairings, you go to fanfiction websites and write your own ending. The big anime then was Gundam. I grew up with Gundam in the After Colony Era...  
**Gundam Wing.**

The canon pairing was Heero Yuy and Relena Peacecraft.

Even though the two are from either sides of the coin, this is not your Romeo and Juliet story. Heero has promised time and time again to kill her for various reasons. In the novel, *Frozen Teardrop*, set 20-30 years after the events of *Endless Waltz*, the two are revealed to be cryogenically preserved.

Heero was woken up for "Operation Mythos" which means he has to kill Relena. Relena is being used by the Mars Federation to be their President and by the Noinheim Konzern.

When the book series started back in 2010, it gave way to many questions. Like why were the two separated when the series ended in peace? and how did the Mars Federation turn out like that?

Despite several haters, the series progressed and ended in a good vibe. In November 2015, the last book was published with the best ending for the couple: their most awaited engagement.

Heero asks to marry her and Relana Relena *nodded, silently, deeply.*

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